



TSTA NEWS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 18, 2022

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TSTA: House report on Uvalde shooting highlights many issues, but gun reform still essential to school safety

Texas State Teachers Association President Ovidia Molina released the following statement:

The special House committee investigating the Uvalde school shooting released what seems to be a thorough report detailing the failures in law enforcement's response to the tragedy; lapses in the school district's security policies and actions; and the failure of the shooter's family, friends and social media contacts to act on the clear warning signs he had exhibited in the days leading up to the tragedy.

The committee also noted that it was charged with fact-finding, not recommending policy changes.

But the tragic facts speak for themselves. An 18-year-old sociopath was allowed under existing law to legally purchase more than 2,000 rounds of ammunition and two assault-style rifles, one of which he used to murder 19 elementary school children and two teachers. We can never know for sure, but the Uvalde tragedy may never have happened if state and/or federal law had prohibited a teenager from purchasing assault weapons. Yet, Gov. Greg Abbott, Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick and their legislative allies refuse to even discuss that issue.

TSTA demands that policymakers enact sensible gun reform laws, beginning with a law that raises the minimum age for purchasing assault-style weapons from 18 to at least 21. What business does a teenager who is not in military service have with an assault rifle?