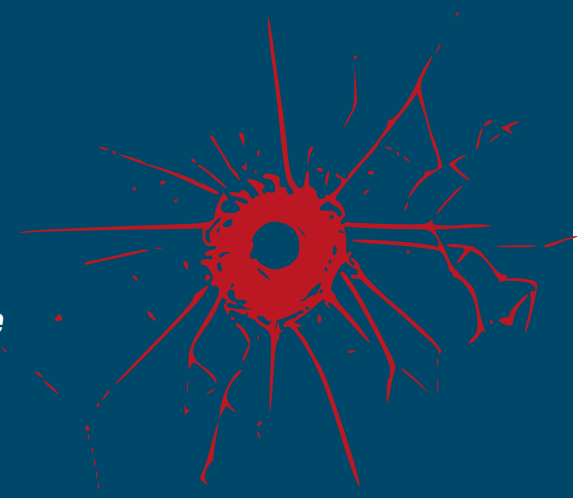


# RESPONSIBILITY IN FIREARMS LEGISLATION (RIFL) ACT

*Shifting Costs of Firearm Injury from the Public to Firearm Manufacturers,  
Supporting Evidence Based Gun Violence Prevention Strategies across the State*

Rep. Olickal HB 3320  
Sen. Peters SB 2279



## THE PROBLEM

Firearm injury in Illinois generates between **\$18-20 Billion** in **direct** and **indirect** costs annually. These costs are associated with ~**6,700** injuries, suicides, homicides, and accidental shootings annually. Clashes over the 2nd Amendment distract taxpayers from noticing it pays a never-ending, crippling tab for firearm injury while the **firearm industry profits handsomely** from the outcomes of its for-profit activity.

**How Firearm Injury Costs are Shared:**  
**Illinois: \$18-20 Billion**  
**Firearm Manufacturers: \$0**

## THE SOLUTION

The equitable solution for relieving the public of the unfair costs of firearm injury is modeled on the **State Guaranty Association**, required for insurers, and **Workers Compensation, mandated** for businesses in all other industries. Business licensing is contingent upon participating in these **no-fault programs financed 100% through contributions by private industry in every state**. Similar no-fault funds exist in many industries.

- The Guaranty Association pools insurers' contributions into a fund to pay outstanding claims in the event of any insurer's bankruptcy.
- Workers Compensation (WC), assembles member companies by industry and calculates their contributions according to "experience rating" of workplace injury, illness and death. WC benefits include wage replacement and lifetime medical care to qualified claimants.

For over **100 years**, these programs have **driven workplace safety and protected society from corporate recklessness**. As precedents for the RIFL Act, they demonstrate how an unfair financial burden can be shifted from the public to the industry responsible for it.

## THE DETAILS

The RIFL Act requires certain finished firearm manufacturers to **share the public costs of firearm injury** with the injured, taxpayers and Illinois through annual contributions to a special State Treasury Fund, aligning manufacturers financial interest with prevention and safer innovation, while funding the proven strategies that reduce gun injury and public costs.

- Requires finished firearm manufacturers to be licensed to sell, distribute, or import products in Illinois.
- Licensing is contingent on finished firearm manufacturers annual contributions to the State Treasury fund. Contributions are required **only if** their products are recovered in an injury or death in the State of Illinois.
- Manufacturers contributions to the fund are **proportional to their number of products recovered** each year associated with injuries or deaths. The fund total varies year to year based on the incidence and direct expenses of gun injury.
- Licensing is operated by a non-for-profit, legal entity authorized by the Illinois State Government. A percentage of the fund contributions are appropriated for the administrative costs of the agency.
- The RIFL Act requires all Illinois law enforcement agencies to provide the Illinois State Police with information on all firearm injury types, fatal and non-fatal, and provide the name of the **manufacturer and model associated with injury**. ISP will report annually to the agency this data which will be used to calculate annual fund contributions.
- Failure of manufacturers, distributors, or authorized retailers, including vendors at gun shows, to comply will result in fines and revocation of licensing to sell firearm products in the State of Illinois.
- The funds collected will be appropriated to IDHS Office of Firearm Violence Prevention to support **Reimagining Public Safety Act grants** across the State to fund evidence based violence and suicide prevention efforts, victim services, and high risk youth intervention.
- Cost benefit analysis indicates in year 1, the RIFL Act will save Illinois \$297 Million and by year 3, \$520 Million