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U.S. SENATOR *for* COLORADO

School Shooting Safety and Preparedness Act

U.S. Senator Michael Bennet

The School Shooting Safety and Preparedness Act will lay the groundwork necessary to provide uniform data to the American people who grapple with the recurring horror of school shootings, as well as policymakers who are responsible for addressing this problem. This bill creates a federal definition for “school shooting” and establishes an annual report regarding indicators of school crime as it pertains to school shootings.

Establishing a federally-recognized definition of “school shooting” provides a means by which we can accurately track these incidents and better measure the effect of policy solutions that are implemented at the state and federal level.

The bill:

- Defines “mass shooting” and “school shooting” for the first time in federal law.
- Directs the Department of Education, in consultation with the Departments of Justice and Health and Human Services, to report annually on indicators of school safety for each school shooting that occurs.
- Data includes statistics on school shootings, such as the number of shootings, the number of people killed, demographics of shooters and victims, the motivation of shooters, types of firearms and ammunition used, how the firearm was acquired, and more.
- Directs the Department of Education to collect the safety and prevention protocols in place at a school at the time of the shooting, such as information on the building designs, and communication and response plans.