



**POLICE DEPARTMENT
HOUSTON INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT**

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Pedro "Pete" Lopez
Chief of Police

www.HoustonISD.org
www.twitter.com/HoustonISD

RE: STATE OF TEXAS LAWS PERTAINING TO SAFE GUN STORAGE AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF PARENTS/GUARDIANS

Dear Parent/Guardian:

The Houston Independent School District (HISD) is dedicated to a safe learning environment at school and at home. In the U.S., gun violence on school campuses is alarming. In 2021, there were 202 incidents of gunfire on school campuses resulting in 49 deaths and 126 injuries. In Houston, 37 children were killed by firearms, and 161 were injured. HISD recognizes that proper gun storage education and laws are essential to ensuring a gun-free campus. To further our efforts to protect students from firearms, and as a courtesy to our families, HISD is informing parents and guardians of the legal obligations to protect minors from negligent gun storage. Please review the state statute on gun storage laws summarized below:

Texas State Law 46.13 "Making a Firearm Accessible to a Child"

In Texas, a "child" is defined as a person under the age of 17. The statute indicates that a person commits an offense if a child gains access to a readily dischargeable firearm and the person with criminal negligence:

- (1) failed to secure the firearm; or
- (2) left the firearm in a place the person knew or should have known the child would gain access to.

Respectfully,

Pedro "Pete" Lopez, Jr.
HISD Chief of Police



CUT HERE AND RETURN TO YOUR SCHOOL PRINCIPAL

SAFE GUN STORAGE ACKNOWLEDGEMENT FORM

Please sign below acknowledging receipt of this information.

Student Name (Please Print) _____

Parent/Guardian Name (Please Print) _____

Parent/Guardian Signature _____

Date _____