

[H.B. 2744](#) (Raises The Minimum Age to Buy an Assault Rifle)

- Texas Democrats are urging all Texans to [call their Representatives](#) — in particular, the [Members of the House Select Committee on Community Safety](#) — and respectfully urge them to vote **YES** on H.B. 2744.
- [H.B. 2744](#), or the #RaiseTheAge Act, would raise the minimum age in Texas to buy an assault rifle — that is, a semiautomatic rifle that is capable of accepting a detachable magazine and that has a caliber greater than .22 — from 18 to 21 years old.
 - AR-15-style rifles, along with other types of long guns, would fall within these defined parameters.
- The #RaiseTheAge Act was authored by Rep. Tracy King, whose district includes Uvalde — the home of Robb Elementary, where, nearly a year ago, an 18-year-old armed with an AR-15 slaughtered 19 young children and two teachers, and wounded 22 others.
- As the Texas Tribune [reports](#), “With emotional testimony about their own experiences, parents of children who were killed in the Uvalde school shooting urged a Texas House committee late Tuesday to pass on to the full chamber a bill that would raise the minimum age to purchase certain semi-automatic rifles.”
- Rep. King said of the bill: “When the tragedy in Uvalde occurred last year, I heard loud and clear what the families had to say: that an 18-year-old should never have been able to even get his hands on an AR-15 in the first place – and that this needs to change. We need to protect Texas children and raise the age to buy an assault rifle in our state — just as we have with handguns — from 18 to 21.”
- There are some pieces of legislation that are so common-sense that it's shameful we must even need to vouch for them — and this is one of those.
- Any responsible individual who's handled an AR-15 will tell you that it's among the most deadly weapons that a person can get their hands on, and that 18-year-olds — high-school-aged kids — have no place near them.
- It's ludicrous that in our great state, someone can legally buy an assault rifle years before they're even allowed to purchase a can of beer.

- Let's heed the desperate pleas of the families of Uvalde and get this damn law passed before another Uvalde happens on our watch. Call your Representative and tell them to vote **YES** on H.B. 2744.
- According to [a Washington Post investigation](#), "[t]he AR-15 fires bullets at such a high velocity... that it can eviscerate multiple people in seconds. A single bullet lands with a shock wave intense enough to blow apart a skull and demolish vital organs. The impact is even more acute on the compact body of a small child."