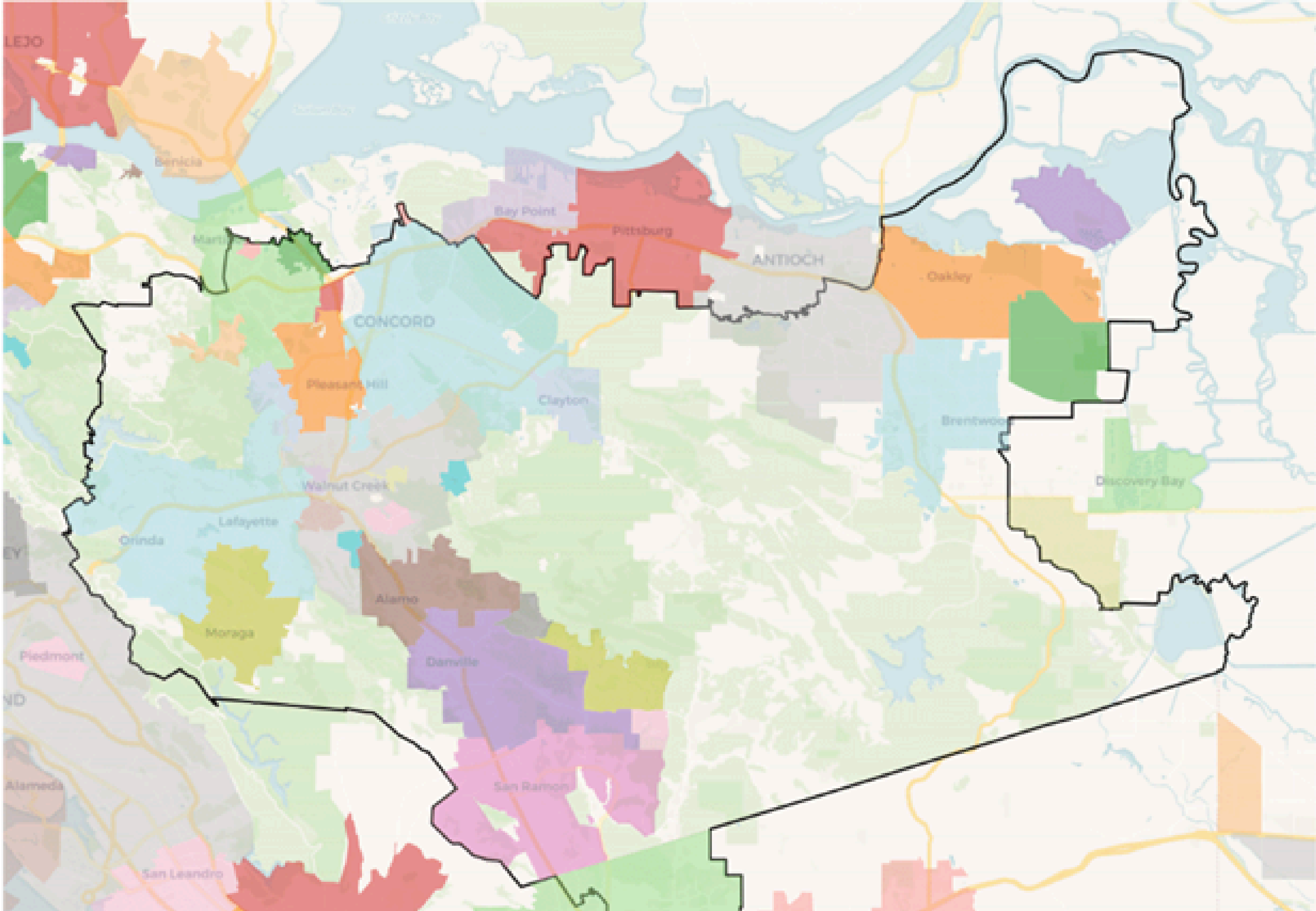


Town Hall on Gun Violence

August 14, 2024

DISTRICT 10



Scope of the Problem

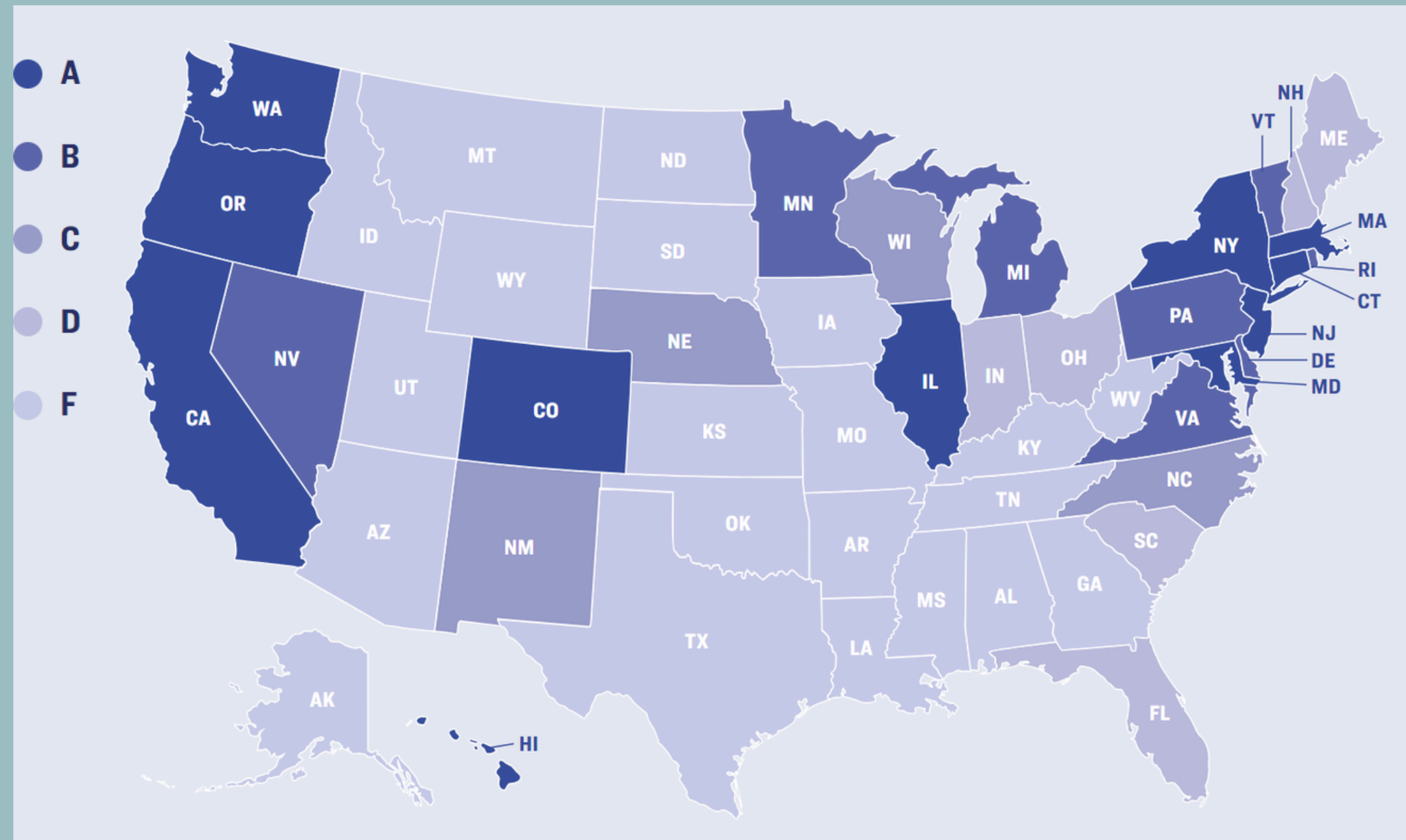
- **The gun violence pandemic is a uniquely American problem.** The U.S. firearm homicide rate is at least 20x higher than the combined rates of 22 comparable countries.
- **The numbers are too high to ignore.** Every day, 321 people are shot in the United States, 118 of those people are shot and killed.
- **Firearms are the leading cause of death for American children and teens.**
- The estimated **annual cost of gun injury exceeded \$229 billion** in 2012.

Scope of the Problem

- Gun violence is such a pervasive threat in the United States that **the Surgeon General declared firearm violence to be a public health crisis.**
- **Suicides must be addressed.** About 60% of all adult firearm deaths are by suicide. Gun access triples suicide risk and more than 50% of suicides in the U.S. involve a gun.
- **Addressing gun violence is a civil rights issue.** African American men make up 52% of all gun homicide victims in the U.S., despite comprising less than 7% of the population. In California, African Americans are 11x more likely to die of gun homicide than Whites.

The California Experience

- California's gun laws are ranked #1 by the Giffords Law Center to Prevent Gun Violence.
- California has the 7th lowest rate of gun violence in the country.



California vs. Federal Law

	California	Federal
Background checks	Universal	Only through federally license dealers (not on private sales)
Waiting period	10 days	None
Purchase limit	One every 30 days	No limit
Pre-purchase requirements	(1) 5-year Firearm Safety Certificate, (2) background check, (3) written test	None
Assault weapons	Illegal, except in limited circumstances	Legal
Firearm registration	California DOJ keeps registry including fingerprints of gun owners	None
Magazine capacity	Illegal to have a magazine with more than 10 bullets	No restrictions

Congressman DeSaulnier's "Not Here" Initiative

- In recognition of the important work being done across the East Bay, we developed "Not Here" to share those successes.
- The document highlights specific programs and initiatives, including:
 - County's Violence Prevention Program
 - Richmond's Office of Neighborhood Safety
 - County-wide efforts to improve community crisis intervention
 - Safe storage efforts
- The community successes are coupled with the **Local Gun Violence Reduction Act**, which would create a local gun violence prevention effort database at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) where state and local governments can enter information and data on policies implemented in their communities that have reduced gun violence and for the purpose of sharing these solutions with other states and localities to end the public health crisis of gun violence nationwide.

Lifelong Support for Reducing Gun Violence

- Proud recipient of a lifetime “**F**” score from the NRA
- In Congress
 - Authored 6 initiatives
 - The **Gun Safety Board and Research Act** would start a non-partisan, unbiased review of gun violence prevention efforts to promote data-driven reforms.
 - The **Advancing Gun Safety Technology Act** would help bring life-saving gun safety technology to the market.
 - Voted to enhance background checks at the federal level
 - Sponsored nearly 40 other gun violence prevention bills
- Authored bills in the State Legislature to better track lost and stolen firearms and promote the development and sale of smart guns
- As a member of the County Board of Supervisors, co-authored public health approach to gun violence including the **Taking Aim at Gun Dealers** report
- Supported the **Bipartisan Safer Communities Act**, a historic gun violence prevention bill signed into law in June 2022 that **enhances background checks, protects survivors of domestic violence, and invests in mental health care.**

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