

# Weekly Dem radio address: Sen. Johnson says while Gov. Evers acts to prevent violence, Republicans have chosen to ignore it

Posted on Friday, May 20, 2022

>> **WisPolitics is now on the State Affairs network. Get custom keyword notifications, bill tracking and all WisPolitics content. [Get the app or access via desktop.](#)**

<https://www.wispolitics.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/05/220520DemAddress.mp3>

Almost eight years ago I attended the funeral of ten-year-old Sierra Guyton after she was caught in a crossfire on an elementary school playground, the first I'd attended while in office. Sadly, we continue to see families devastated by gun violence. My community is tired of senseless shootings, and we are tired of Republicans picking and choosing when they decide to care.

On November 7, 2019, Governor Evers called for a special session on gun violence. Wisconsin Republicans failed to show up, and have continued, year after year, to reject widely-supported gun violence prevention policies like universal background checks. Despite Republicans' refusal to act, Governor Evers used his executive authority to invest in tackling crime. The governor directed more than \$100 million toward enhancing public safety across the state, including \$45 million to support violence prevention efforts and crime victims.

But we have to do more. Milwaukee Police recovered 3,279 guns and responded to 17,002 ShotSpotter activations in 2022. Our officers are outgunned!

So, until I start hearing more than lip service from the same people responsible for

starving my city of revenue and making it a dumping ground for illegal guns, you'll have to forgive me for disbelieving the phony concerns from Republicans who have chosen not to act time and time again.