



December 14, 2023

Dear \_\_\_\_\_,

December 14, 2023 is the 11-year mark of the Sandy Hook tragedy when a gunman used an AR-15 and high capacity magazines to brutally murder 26 children and educators in an elementary school. Since that horrific day, over 1.1 million Americans have been shot and [over 448,000 Americans have been killed](#) by guns in towns and cities across our nation; there have been more than [4900 mass shooting incidents](#); and the number of annual gun deaths has increased to 48,000 in 2022.

After the horrific shootings in Buffalo, Uvalde, and Highland Park, the 117th Congress passed the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act (BSCA) and President Joe Biden immediately signed the bill into law. This legislation was the first federal gun violence prevention bill that was signed into law since the Brady Background Check bill and the Assault Weapons Ban legislation were passed in 1994. BSCA was an important step in the right direction but it is not enough to end the gun violence crisis in our nation therefore we are urging you to support the following lifesaving bills.

- ✓ [S.25](#) and [H.R.698](#) – Assault Weapons Ban of 2023 (Feinstein/Cicilline-McBath)
- ✓ [S.173](#) and [H.R.660](#) – Ethan's Law (Blumenthal/DeLauro)
- ✓ [S.2048](#) and [H.R.4184](#) – Equal Access to Justice for Victims of Gun Violence Act (Blumenthal/Schiff)
- ✓ [S.494](#) – Background Check Expansion Act (Murphy), [H.R.715](#) – Bipartisan Background Checks Act of 2023 (Fitzpatrick), and [H.R.2403](#) – Enhanced Background Checks Act of 2023 (Clyburn)
- ✓ [S.2638](#) and [H.R.5003](#) – Break the Cycle of Violence Act (Booker/Horsford)
- ✓ [S.1026](#) and [H.R.2390](#) – Gun Violence Prevention Research Act of 2023 (Markey/Slotkin)

Gun violence is a public health emergency! A set of strong comprehensive gun violence prevention laws are needed to protect all Americans in our nation. We implore the Senate to not wait until 60 filibuster-proof votes are secured to vote on lifesaving bills that were passed in the House of Representatives. Introducing legislation is simply not enough. We need the Senate gun safety champions to be persistent in their efforts to pass lifesaving gun laws and demonstrate to the American people that they are doing all they can to end the gun violence crisis in our nation.

In April of 2019, a coalition of gun violence prevention survivors, advocates, and researchers from across the nation gathered at the GVPedia Conference in Denver, Colorado to commemorate the 20th Anniversary of the

Columbine shooting, and to forge a path forward to a safer America. From this assembly [the Denver Accord](#) was born, a declaration of guiding principles and policies to end the scourge of gun violence in America.

THE TIME IS NOW for Congress to act boldly to protect our children and loved ones. Therefore, a coalition of 143 gun violence prevention organizations and allies - representing over 16 million Americans, implore you to immediately pass these priority bills and work towards passing other policy proposals recommended in GVPedia's Denver Accord to steadily reduce gun homicides, gun suicides, unintentional shootings, mass shootings, police violence, and gun injuries in America.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

*5/14 Survivor*

*AAPI Victory Alliance*

*Activate America*

*Adorers of the Blood of Christ US Region JPIC office*

*Advocates For Change*

*American Federation of Teachers*

*American Federation of Teachers (AFT) Colorado*

*American Medical Women's Association*

*Amnesty International USA*

*Arizonans For Gun Safety*

*Ban Assault Weapons NOW!*

*Barbara J. Allen Studio*

*Blue Future*

*BPFNA~Bautistas por la Paz*

*Building Blocks for DC*

*Ceasefire Oregon*

*Change the Ref*

*Church Women United in New York State*

*Citizens for a Safer Pima County*

*Colorado Ceasefire Legislative Action*

*CONNECTICUT AGAINST GUN VIOLENCE*

*Culver 878*

*Delaware Coalition Against Gun Violence*

*Doctors for America*

*Dominican Sisters of Sinsinawa*

*Dominican Sisters of Sparkill*

*East Area Progressive Democrats (EAPD)*

*Enough of Gun Violence*

*Equality California*

*Everything 4 Walter*

*Faces Not Forgotten*

*Faith Leaders for Ending Gun Violence*

*Fourth Branch Action*

*Francescosfoundation*

*Franciscan Action Network*

*Franciscan Peace Center, Clinton, Iowa*

*Gate City Coalition*

*Gays Against Guns*

*General Board of Church and Society, United Methodist Church*

*GIFFORDS*

*Global Exchange*

*Grandmothers Against Gun Violence*

*Grandmothers Against Gun Violence Cape Cod*

*Grandparents Uniting for Gun Safety*

*Grey Nuns of the Sacred Heart*

*Gun Violence Prevention Center of Utah*

*Gun Violence Prevention PAC ILLINOIS*

*Gun-violence Survivors Advisory Council*

*GunControlToday*

*Guns Down America*

*Guns Down Fridays in Southeast Washington DC*

*GunSense Vermont*

*GVPedia*

*HB Huddle*

*Healing 4 Our Families & Our Nation*

*Holy Spirit Missionary Sisters, USA-JPIC*

*Illinois Medical Professionals Action Collaborative Team*

*Imani Dream Angel*

*Institute for a Progressive Nevada*

*Jared's Heart of Success Inc*

*Jewish Women International*

*Journey4ward*

*Jr Newtown Action Alliance*

*Justice4Ellis*

*Leadership Team of the Felician Sisters of North America*

*Lives Robbed*

*Maine Chapter, American Academy of Pediatrics*

*Maine Gun Safety Coalition*

*Maine Veterans For Peace*

*March for Our Lives*

*Marylanders to Prevent Gun Violence*

*Math Gamers*

*Medical Mission Sisters*

*Medical Missionaries of Mary*

*MomsRising*

*National Asian American Pacific Islander Mental Health Association*

*National Council of Jewish Women*

*National Education Association*

*National Extreme Risk Protection Order (ERPO) Working Group*

*Newtown Action Alliance*

*No Do-Overs*

*No Future Without Today*

*NoRA*

*Nuns Against Gun Violence*

*NWSOFA Gun Violence Prevention*

*OCA - Asian Pacific American Advocates*

*Ohio Council of Churches*

*Oklahoma Homicide Survivors Support Group*

*Pax Christi USA*

*People for a Safer Society*

*People for a Safer Society Nat'l Council of Jewish Women CNS*

*People Power United*

*Prevent Gun Violence Florida*  
*Protect Minnesota*  
*Protest Easy Guns*  
*Remembering Darien Victims Foundation*  
*Report The Ripple & Hometown Advocacy*  
*Rhode Island Coalition Against Gun Violence*  
*Rise AAPI*  
*Safer CA*  
*Safer Communities For Justice*  
*Safer Country*  
*San Diegans for Gun Violence Prevention*  
*Sikh American Legal Defense and Education Fund (SALDEF)*  
*Silver State Equality*  
*Sisters of Charity of Nazareth Congregational Leadership*  
*Sisters of Charity of Nazareth Western Province Leadership*  
*Sisters of Mercy of the Americas Justice Team*  
*Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur EW Unit*  
*Sisters of St. Francis of Philadelphia*  
*Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet Albany*  
*Sisters of the Humility of Mary*  
*SOM*  
*SOUTH ASIAN NETWORK*  
*St. Joseph University Parish Buffalo Gun Violence Awareness Committee*  
*St. Marks Episcopal Church Capitol Hill DC*  
*States United to Prevent Gun Violence*  
*Surviving The Pain Together, Inc.*  
*Survivors Empowered*  
*Survivors Lead*  
*Teachers Unify to End Gun Violence*  
*Temple Sinai (DC) Gun Violence Prevention Group*  
*The Bakari Foundation*  
*The Campaign to Keep Guns Off Campus*  
*The Dru Project*  
*The ENOUGH Campaign*  
*The Ethan Miller Song Foundation*  
*The Good Trouble Coalition*  
*The Healing Connection*  
*Their Future. Our Vote.*  
*Trauma 2 Triumph*  
*U.S. Federation of the Sisters of St. Joseph*  
*Union for Reform Judaism*  
*United Methodist Churches of Indiana*  
*United Women in Faith*  
*Ursuline Sisters of Cleveland*  
*Violent Crime Survivors*  
*Vision Quilt*  
*Washington National Cathedral Ministry*  
*WAVE Educational Fund*  
*Women Against Gun Violence*  
*Women of Color Coalition*  
*Woori Juntos*