

# I say **NO** to **#WeaponsOfWar.**



「CAMPAIGN **AGAINST** ASSAULT WEAPONS」

February 5, 2021

Dear Members of the Florida Legislature:

We are members of the Campaign Against Assault Weapons in support of Florida Coalition to Prevent Gun Violence, LWV of Florida, The Campaign to Keep Guns Off Campus, and Ban Assault Weapons Now efforts to pass SB 370 & HB 653 to ban assault weapons and high capacity magazines in Florida.

Too many Americans have been senselessly gunned down in public spaces in towns and cities in Florida. With easy access to military-style semi-automatic assault weapons and high capacity ammunition magazines, too many individuals have turned our schools, malls, concerts, movie theaters, stores, restaurants, nightclubs, food festivals, streets, workplaces, and places of worship into war zones filled with terror, devastation, and terrible loss.

Military-style semi-automatic assault weapons are designed to efficiently kill as many people as possible in the shortest amount of time available.

- On July 20, 2012, a 24-year-old white male killed 12 people and injured 70 others (58 from gunfire) with assault weapons and high capacity magazines inside a Century 16 movie theater in Aurora, Colorado.
- On December 14, 2012, a 20-year-old white male killed 26 children and educators with an AR-15 and high capacity magazines in less than five minutes at Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, Connecticut.
- On December 2, 2015, a homegrown extremist couple killed 14 people and 22 others with assault weapons and high capacity magazines in an attack at the Inland Regional Center in San Bernardino, California.
- On June 12, 2016, a 29-year-old security guard, killed 49 people and injured 53 others with an assault weapon and high capacity magazines in an attack targeting LGBTQI community inside the Pulse Nightclub in Orlando, Florida.

- On June 3, 2017, gunmen armed with AK-47s trafficked illegally into Mexico killed 6 people and wounded 22 others at Chicho's Bar in Chihuahua city in northern Mexico.
- On October 1, 2017, a 64-year-old white male killed 58 people and wounded 851 (422 by gunfire) with an AR-15, bump stocks, and high capacity magazines at the Route 91 Harvest Music Festival in Las Vegas, Nevada.
- On November 5, 2017, a 26-year-old white male, with domestic violence history and dismissed from the U.S. Air Force, killed 26 people (including an unborn baby) and wounded 20 others with an assault weapon and high capacity magazines inside the First Baptist Church in Sutherland Springs, Texas.
- On February 14, 2018, a 19-year-old white male killed 17 students and educators and injured 17 others with an AR-15 and high capacity magazines at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida.
- On April 22, 2018, a 29-year-old male killed 4 people and injured 2 others with an AR-15 and high capacity magazines at the Waffle House in Nashville, Tennessee.
- On October 27, 2018, a 46-year-old anti-Semitic white male killed 11 people and injured six others with an assault weapon and high capacity magazines at the Tree of Life Synagogue in the Squirrel Hill neighborhood of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.
- On April 19 2019, unidentified gunmen killed 14 people, including an infant boy, and wounded three others with AR-15s and AK47s illegally trafficked into Mexico, at a family party in Minatitlán, Veracruz in Mexico.
- On May 31, 2019, a 40-year-old disgruntled city employee killed 12 people and injured 4 others fatally with an assault weapon and high capacity magazines in a municipal building in Virginia Beach, Virginia.
- On June 18, 2019, a group of gunmen attacked a Mexican army patrol and killed 4 people and wounded 10 others using AK-47s illegally trafficked into Mexico, in Tlacotepec in the southern Mexican state of Guerrero.
- On Sunday, July 28, 2019, a 19-year-old male killed 3 people and injured 13 others with an AK-47-type assault rifle and high capacity magazines at the Gilroy Garlic Festival in Gilroy, California.
- On Saturday, August 3, 2019, a 21-year-old male with white supremacist ideation killed 22 people, including eight Mexican citizens, and injured 24 others with an AK-47-style assault rifle, high capacity magazines and 8M3 ammunition in Walmart in El Paso, Texas.
- On Saturday, August 3, 2019, a 24-year-old male killed 9 people and injured 31 others with a legally purchased .223-caliber rifle and 100-round drum magazines in 24 seconds outside a nightclub at a nightlife district in downtown Dayton, Ohio.

Recently, the [FBI has deemed far-right extremism as the deadliest domestic terror threat facing the United States](#). In many states, extremists are using assault weapons to intimidate lawmakers and the civilian population. If the insurrectionists involved in the violent takeover of the Capitol Building on January 6, 2021 brought their assault weapons to D.C., the number of deaths and injuries would have been much greater. Thankfully, assault weapons are banned in Washington, D.C.

There is absolutely no reason for weapons of war—assault rifles, assault pistols, and assault shotguns—to be sold on the civilian market. It's time for Florida to join California, Connecticut, Hawaii, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Jersey, New York and the District of Columbia to pass SB 370 & HB 653 to ban civilian ownership of weapons of war.

In 2004, Congress and President Bush failed to reauthorize and strengthen the 1994 federal assault weapons ban which enabled their use in Aurora, Sandy Hook, San Bernardino, Orlando, Las Vegas, Sutherland Springs, Parkland, Pittsburgh, Nashville, Thousand Oaks Gilroy, El Paso and Dayton. While we wait for Congress to pass the federal legislation to ban weapons of war, we implore you to pass SB370 and HB 653 to prevent another heartbreaking tragedy in Florida.

Thank you for your consideration.

Members of the Campaign Against Assault Weapons

A New Routine for America

AIDS CT

All Saints Church Pasadena Gun Violence Prevention Task Force

All Souls Unitarian Universalist Church

American Family Voices

Amnesty International USA

Anglican Church of Mexico

Anna's Place: A Franciscan Hospitality Center

Antelope Valley (Brady) California

Arizonans for Gun Safety

Art = Ammo, Artists Against Gun Violence

Avaaz

Ban Assault Weapons Now

Battle Born Progress

Birmingham (Brady) Alabama

Blessed Ministries

Brady Baltimore, Maryland

Brady Barnwell County, South Carolina

Brady Bergen County, New Jersey

Brady Boston, Massachusetts

Brady Campaign at Indiana University

Brady Campaign to Prevent Gun Violence united with Million Mom March

Brady Dayton Chapter, Ohio

Brady Monongalia County, West Virginia

Brady Sussex County, New Jersey

Brady Twin Cities, Minnesota

Brady University of Michigan

Brady/Million Mom March Greater Pittsburgh Area, Pennsylvania

Brady/Million Mom March Middlesex County, New Jersey

Brave New Films

Bridgeport Child Advocacy Coalition

Broader Representation Advocacy Team- Political Action Committee (BRAT-PAC)

Buffalo (Brady), New York

California Team Enough

Californians For Gun Safety  
Camden-Burlington (Brady), New Jersey  
Campaign to Unload  
Ceasefire Oregon  
CeaseFire Pennsylvania  
Cedar Lane Unitarian Universalist Church  
Central Arkansas (Brady)  
Central Lutheran Church  
Central Minnesota (Brady)  
Central Ohio Brady/Million Mom March Chapter  
Central Oklahoma Brady  
Centro de Estudios Ecuménicos  
Charleston Brady, South Carolina  
Chi-Town GVP Summit  
Chicago's Citizens for Change, Inc.  
Childrens Firearm Safety Alliance  
Clark County (Vancouver) Million Mom March, Washington  
Cleveland Brady, Ohio  
Cleveland School Remembers Stockton Brady, California  
Coalition Against Gun Violence, a Santa Barbara County Coalition  
Coalition for Peace Action  
Coalition of Nebraskans Against Gun Violence  
Coalition to Stop Gun Violence  
CODEPINK Women for Peace  
Colorado Ceasefire  
Colorado Faith Communities United to End Gun Violence  
Concerned Citizens Against Gun Violence  
Concert Across America to End Gun Violence  
Congregation Kol Ami  
Connecticut Against Gun Violence  
Contra Costa County Brady, California  
CT Conference of the United Church of Christ  
Dallas (Brady), Texas  
Delaware Coalition Against Gun Violence (DECAGV)  
Delaware Million Mom March  
Democracy for America  
Denver (Brady), Colorado  
DeSoto Country Brady, Mississippi  
Disarm Hate  
District of Columbia (Brady)  
Doctors for America  
Dominican Sisters of Blauvelt, NY  
Dominican Sisters of Peace  
Emerson College Brady, Massachusetts  
End the Madness  
Episcopal Peace Fellowship  
Equality California  
Equality Florida  
Essex County Million Mom March, New Jersey

Every Child Matters  
Faiths United to Prevent Gun Violence  
Families4peace  
Family and Children's Ministries, Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) DHM  
Felician Sisters of Livonia  
First Church  
FIVE AWAKE  
Florida Coalition to Prevent Gun Violence  
Franciscan Action Network  
Franciscan Peace Center  
Franciscan Sisters  
Franciscan Sisters of Mary  
Franciscan Sisters of St. Joseph  
Franciscan Sisters of the Poor  
Friends Against Violence Everywhere (FAVE)  
GAYS against GUNS  
Gays Not Guns  
Georgetown Against Gun Violence  
Georgetown County Brady, South Carolina  
Georgia Alliance for Social Justice  
Georgians for Gun Safety  
Global Exchange  
Global Vision  
God Before Guns  
Grand Strand Brady, South Carolina  
Grandmothers Against Gun Violence-Cape Cod  
Grandparents Against Gun Violence (MO)  
Greater Chicagoland Brady, Illinois  
Greater Danbury Brady, Connecticut  
Greater Phoenix Million Mom March, Arizona  
Greater Rochester Brady/Million Mom March, New York  
Greenpeace US  
Greenwich Council Against Gun Violence  
Grey Nuns of the Sacred Heart  
Gun Violence Prevention Center of Utah  
GunControlToday  
Guns Down America  
Gunsense Vermont  
Hampton Roads Million Mom March, Virginia  
Hands Up for Gun Safety (HUGS)  
Hawaii Coalition to Prevent Gun Violence  
Healing 4 Our Families & Our Nation  
Heeding God's Call  
Herndon-Reston Alliance To End Gun Violence  
Holman United Methodist Church  
Honor with Action Coalition  
Hoosiers Concerned About Gun Violence  
Illinois Council Against Handgun Violence  
International Health & Epidemiology Research Center

lowans for Gun Safety  
Jefferson County (Brady), West Virginia  
Survivors Empowered  
Jewish Council for Public Affairs  
Jewish Women International (JWI)  
Joint Action Committee  
Journey4ward  
JPIC Office of the Wheaton Franciscans  
Jr. Newtown Action Alliance  
Justice, peace and integrity for creation committee  
Lake County (Brady), Illinois  
Lane County (Eugene) Million Mom March, Oregon  
Las Vegas (Brady), Nevada  
Latah County Brady Chapter, Idaho  
Latin America Working Group Education Fund  
League of Women Voters of Florida  
Lexington and Central Kentucky Million Mom March  
LGBT4GVP  
Long Beach Brady, California  
Long Island Brady Chapter, New York  
Los Angeles Brady, California  
Louisiana Violence Reduction Coalition  
LPAC  
LWV of Florida  
MA Coalition to Prevent Gun Violence  
Macomb County (Brady), Michigan  
March For Racial Justice #M4RJ  
Marin County (Brady), California  
Marylanders to Prevent Gun Violence  
Massachusetts Brady  
Mercer County Million Mom March, New Jersey  
Metro Atlanta Million Mom March, Georgia  
Metro St. Louis Brady, Missouri  
Mexican Commission for the Defense and Promotion of Human Rights  
Michigan Coalition to Prevent Gun Violence  
Michigan Gun Violence Prevention Caucus  
Michigan Million Mom March  
Mike the Gun Guy  
Million Hoodies Movement for Justice  
Missionary Sisters of the I.C.  
Missionary Sisters of the Immaculate Conception  
MomsRising  
Monmouth Center for World Religions and Ethical Thought  
Montgomery Brady, Alabama  
Montgomery County (Brady), Maryland  
Mountain View United Church  
MoveOn.org Civic Action  
Mt. Vernon Unitarian Church  
Napa County Brady, California

Nashville Brady, Tennessee  
National Action Network  
National Coalition Against Domestic Violence  
National Council of Jewish Women  
National Die-In, USA  
National Domestic Violence Hotline  
National Education Association  
National Gun Victims Action Council  
National LGBTQ Task Force Action Fund  
National Medical Council on Gun Violence  
National Physicians Alliance  
National Women's Law Center  
Nevada-Placer Brady, California  
New Castle Promise  
New Mexicans to Prevent Gun Violence  
New Orleans (Brady), Louisiana  
New York City Brady Chapter  
New York University Law Brady chapter  
New York Youth/Team Enough  
New Yorkers Against Gun Violence  
Newtown Action Alliance  
NoRA  
North Carolina Council of Churches  
North Carolinians Against Gun Violence Education Fund  
Northeast Kansas Brady, Kansas  
Northern Central Florida (Brady)  
Northern Nevada (Brady)  
Northern Virginia Million Mom March  
Northland Minnesota Million Mom March  
Northwest Corner Committee for Gun Violence Prevention  
Oakland/Alameda County Brady, California  
Ohio Coalition Against Gun Violence  
Oklahoma Gun Sense  
One Pulse for America  
Orange County Brady, California  
Orange Ribbons For Gun Safety  
OSAGE NATION (Brady), Oklahoma  
Pacem in Terris-Delaware  
People Demanding Action  
People for a Safer Society  
Physicians for the Prevention of Gun Violence  
Pomona Valley Brady, California  
Portland Million Mom March, Oregon  
Pride Fund to End Gun Violence  
Programa Casa Refugiados  
Progressive Congress Action Fund  
Project End Gun Violence  
Protect Minnesota  
Protest Easy Guns

Psychiatrists for Gun Violence Prevention  
Rabbis Against Gun Violence  
Raleigh Brady, North Carolina  
Reconstructionist Rabbinical Association  
Resistance Seacoast  
Resolve for Gunsense Indiana  
Rhode Island Brady  
Rhode Island Coalition Against Gun Violence  
Richmond Million Mom March, Virginia  
Riverside County (Brady), California  
Rocky Mountain Hye Advocates  
Rutgers University Brady, New Jersey  
Sacramento Valley Brady, California  
Sacred Ground Ministries  
Safe Campus Colorado  
Safe Tennessee Project  
San Diegans for Gun Violence Prevention  
San Diego Brady, California  
San Fernando Valley Brady, California  
San Francisco Brady, California  
San Joaquin Valley (Brady), California  
San Luis Obispo (Brady), California  
San Mateo County Brady, California  
Santa Barbara Brady, California  
Santa Clara County Brady, California  
Santa Cruz County Brady, California  
Santa Fe (Brady), New Mexico  
Sarasota County (Brady), Florida  
Savannah Brady, Georgia  
Seattle Brady, Washington  
Servicios y Asesoría para la Paz A.C.  
SF State (Brady), California  
Silent March  
Sisters of St. Francis of Philadelphia, PA  
Sisters of St. Francis of the Neumann Communities  
Sisters of St. Francis of Tiffin, OH  
Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet, Albany Province, NY  
Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet, LA Province  
Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet, St Louis, MO  
Sisters of St. Joseph, St Paul, MN  
Solano County Brady, California  
Sonoma County Brady, California  
South Florida (Brady)  
Sravasti Abbey  
St. Charles, Missouri (Brady)  
St. Louis University Law (Brady), Missouri  
St. Mark's Episcopal Church Capitol Hill DC  
St. Sabina's Church  
Stanford University (Brady Chapter), California



States United to Prevent Gun Violence  
Step Up, Step Out: End the Culture of Violence, a ministry of Asylum Hill Congregational Church  
Stop Handgun Violence  
Stop Killing Innocent People (SKIP)  
Stop the Violence Coalition, Buffalo, NY  
Stop the Violence Prayer Chain, Wilm. DE  
Survivors Empowered Action Fund  
Survivors empowered South Carolina  
Survivors Lead  
Team 26  
Temple Micah Gun Violence Prevention Group  
The Campaign to Keep Guns Off Campus  
The Connecticut Effect  
The ENOUGH Campaign  
The Ethan Miller Song Foundation  
The Greater Phoenix Million Mom March  
The Washington office on Latin America  
Theodore Parker Church UU Social Action Committee  
Tri-City Alameda County Chapter (Brady), California  
UltraViolet  
Union for Reform Judaism  
Unitarian Universalist Legislative Ministry of New Jersey  
University of Michigan Brady Chapter, Michigan  
Vanderbilt University Brady Chapter, Tennessee  
Ventura County Brady, California  
Vermont Youth for GunSense  
Violence Policy Center  
Violence Prevention Coalition of Greater Los Angeles  
Virginia Center for Public Safety  
Virginia Gun Violence Prevention Coalition  
Vision Quilt  
Washing Ceasefire Foundation  
Washington Ceasefire  
We The People For Sensible Gun Laws  
Westchester County Million Mom March, New York  
Western Illinois (Brady)  
WHEATON FRANCISCAN SISTERS Justice and Peace Office  
Wisconsin Anti-Violence Effort Ed Fund  
Woman's National Democratic Club  
Women Against Gun Violence  
Women Against the Violence Epidemic (WAVE)  
Women's March  
Women's Voices Raised for Social Justice, St. Louis, MO  
Yolo County Brady, California  
Youth Over Guns  
YWCA USA

# HISTORY: CAMPAIGN AGAINST ASSAULT WEAPONS

After the deadly mass shootings in Aurora, Sandy Hook, San Bernardino, Orlando, Las Vegas, Sutherland Springs, Parkland and Pittsburgh, we are saying NO to #WeaponsOfWar! We joined [States United to Prevent Gun Violence](#) to establish a broad coalition of 290+ organizations, chapters and allies on a #CampaignAgainstAssaultWeapons.

Louis Klarevas from University of Massachusetts at Boston who wrote *"Rampage Nation"* collected data on every gun massacre — defined by him as six or more people shot and killed — for the 50 years before 2016. He found that 1) compared to the 10-year period before the ban, the number of gun massacres during the assault weapons ban (1994-2004) period fell by 37 percent, and the number of people dying from gun massacres fell by 43 percent 2) during the 10-year period (2004-2014) after the assault weapons ban lapsed in 2004, there was 183 percent increase in massacres and a 239 percent increase in massacre deaths.

Click [HERE](#) for more information on assault weapons from the Violence Policy Center.

## SENATE: 116TH CONGRESS

Senator Diane Feinstein introduced S. 66 Assault Weapons Ban of 2019 legislation on January 9, 2019.

Click [HERE](#) to review the full text of the legislation.

Click [HERE](#) to review the fact sheet.

Senator Diane Feinstein has also created [THIS RESOURCE GUIDE](#) on her Assault Weapons Ban legislation.

## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES: 116TH CONGRESS

Representative David Cicilline introduced the companion bill H.R.1296 on February 15, 2019. The bill had 216 cosponsors including one Republican.

Click [HERE](#) to review the full text of the legislation.