



January 2, 2022

The Hon. _____
U.S. House of Representatives
The Capitol
Washington, DC 20510

Senator Dianne Feinstein
United States Senate
The Capitol
Washington, DC 20510

Senator Alex Padilla
United States Senate
The Capitol
Washington, DC 20510

Re: Expand the Brady Background Checks and Restore the Assault Weapons Ban

Dear Members of Congress,

I'm among the more than 90 percent of Americans who support expanding background checks and among the 60% who support banning the sale of assault weapons. I'm writing to urge you to support legislation that will expand and strengthen Brady Background checks and restore the ban on assault weapons.

In 2019, the House passed H.R. 8 to expand background checks. Yet the Senate failed to bring its companion bill to a debate or vote. In that time, thousands of people in America have been killed by guns. These tragedies are preventable.

Gun violence in America is a public health crisis and among the leading causes of death in our country. Every day, more than 100 people in the U.S. are shot and killed. Nearly 40,000 people in America die by guns every year making gun violence among the leading causes of death in America.

Assault rifles have been the weapon of choice for some of the deadliest mass shootings in our country's history — and these weapons of war are still allowed on our streets despite the gun violence epidemic continuing to worsen. In fact, 2021 has been one of our deadliest years for gun violence.

This isn't a new story. Since the original assault weapons ban ended nearly two decades ago, gun violence survivors have been fighting for tangible change and pushing through their own grief for years, all while watching other countries address gun violence as the urgent crisis it is and preventing further tragedy. But here in the U.S. — thanks to the NRA, an off the rails gun culture and their ironclad grip on far too many politicians — all our progress has been stopped in its tracks.

We know that background checks save lives. After the Brady Bill went into effect in 1994, gun murders fell by an astonishing 32 percent from 1993 to 2006. Expanding background checks to cover every gun sale and transaction will help keep guns out of dangerous hands.

It is time to end our country's obsession with weapons of war by restoring the assault weapons ban and address these deadly loopholes that allow prohibited purchasers easy access to firearms by expanding and strengthening Brady Background Checks.

Thank you for your time and consideration on this important issue.

Sincerely,
(Print Name) _____

Address _____

CC: President Joe Biden