



NEWTOWN ACTION ALLIANCE
P.O. BOX 3325
NEWTOWN, CT 06470

January 12, 2021

Dear President-Elect Joe Biden,

On behalf of the Newtown Action Alliance, I would like to congratulate you and Vice President-Elect Kamala Harris on your historic victory on November 3, 2020. We were proud to endorse you for President for the 2020 Elections and very appreciative of your strong gun violence prevention platform. We are thrilled that we will have an opportunity to work with you and your administration to end gun violence in our nation.

Newtown Action Alliance is a national grassroots gun violence prevention organization that was born out of the Sandy Hook School shooting tragedy that shattered millions of hearts around the world. For the last eight years, we organized as an all-volunteer organization to use our unapologetic, authentic, and organic voices in the gun violence prevention movement. We prioritized building an alliance and lifting the voices of the families and survivors who have been directly impacted by gun violence in all communities. Our goal is to pass the policies outlined in [the Denver Accord](#), a set of strong comprehensive policies to end all forms of gun violence in our nation. We have traveled to D.C. with families and survivors from urban, suburban and rural communities to host the annual National Vigil for All Victims of Gun Violence and to meet with Congress to urge them to pass the policies outlined in the Denver Accord. We coordinate hundreds of local vigils across the nation to honor all victims of gun violence during the month of December every year.

We are particularly proud of our efforts to pass a federal ban on assault weapons. We have garnered the support of nearly 300 organizations for the [Campaign Against Assault Weapons](#), providing support for [S.66](#), Senator Diane Feinstein's assault weapons ban bill and [H.R. 1296](#), Representative David Cicilline's assault weapons ban bill. We worked closely with Brady and March for Our Lives to secure 216 cosponsors for H.R. 1296 and we plan on building support for Senator Feinstein's legislation in the coming days.

We are confident that H.R. 1296 will pass out of the House of Representatives and we must force the Senate to pass the bill therefore we strongly encourage you and your administration to prioritize banning weapons of war.

Mass shooters use assault weapons to terrorize our children and loved ones in our communities. 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. The FBI has reported that armed intimidation is being planned in all 50 states leading up to Inauguration Day. If the insurrectionists involved in the violent takeover of the Capitol Building on January 6, 2021 brought their assault

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weapons to D.C., the number of deaths would have been much greater. Thankfully, assault weapons are banned in Washington, D.C.

Sadly, only seven states (California, Connecticut, Hawaii, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Jersey, New York) and the District of Columbia have passed laws to prohibit assault weapons. Our state borders are porous therefore the federal government must ban assault weapons to protect the nation's elected leaders, our children, and our families in all communities in all 50 states. You successfully passed the 1994 Assault Weapons Ban and we are hoping you will help us pass the ban once again in 2021.

Twenty first graders and six educators being brutally murdered by a gunman with an AR-15 and high capacity magazines in an elementary school in Sandy Hook should have been enough for Congress to pass the ban. If the ban passed in 2013 then we could have prevented Parkland, Las Vegas, Sutherland Springs, Orlando and many other mass shooting incidents. President Obama said one of his biggest regrets of his Presidency was not being able to pass gun safety legislation after Sandy Hook. We are hoping you will have more success.

Thank you for your consideration and we hope to discuss our efforts in greater detail with you and your administration in the near future.

Sincerely,
Po Murray
Chairwoman, Newtown Action Alliance
pmurray@newtownaction.org
203-512-1778

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

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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

Representative David Cicilline introduced the companion bill H.R.1296 on February 15, 2019. We have secured a record 216 cosponsors including one Republican.

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

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 Federation of Teachers

Amnesty International USA

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

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
Charleston Brady, South Carolina
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
Concert Across America to End Gun Violence
Congregation Kol Ami
Connecticut Against Gun Violence
Contra Costa County Brady, California
Dallas (Brady), Texas
Delaware Coalition Against Gun Violence
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
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
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
Greenwich Council Against Gun Violence
Grey Nuns of the Sacred Heart
Gun Violence Prevention Center of Utah
GunControlToday
GunsDown
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
Hoosiers Concerned About Gun Violence
Illinois Council Against Handgun Violence
International Health & Epidemiology Research Center
Iowans for Gun Safety
Jefferson County (Brady), West Virginia
Jessi's Message
Jewish Women International (JWI)
Joint Action Committee
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
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
Michigan Coalition to Prevent Gun Violence
Michigan Gun Violence Prevention Caucus
Michigan Million Mom March
Mike the Gun Guy
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 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 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
New York Youth/Team Enough

New York City Brady Chapter
New York University Law Brady chapter
Oakland/Alameda County Brady, California
Ohio Coalition Against Gun Violence
Oklahoma Gun Sense
One Pulse for America
Orange County Brady, California
OSAGE NATION (Brady), Oklahoma
Pacem in Terris-Delaware
People Demanding Action
Physicians for the Prevention of Gun Violence
Pomona Valley Brady, California
Portland Million Mom March, Oregon
Pride Fund to End Gun Violence
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
Rhode Island Brady
Rhode Island Coalition Against Gun Violence
Richmond Million Mom March, Virginia

Riverside County (Brady), California
Rutgers University Brady, New Jersey
Sacramento Valley Brady, California
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
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
Survivors Lead
Team 26
Temple Micah Gun Violence Prevention Group
The Campaign to Keep Guns Off Campus
The Connecticut Effect
The ENOUGH Campaign

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
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 Franciscans
Wisconsin Anti-Violence Effort Ed Fund
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

YWCA USA