



THE UNITED STATES CONFERENCE OF MAYORS

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March 9, 2021

Dear Members of the U.S. House of Representatives:

We write to register the strong support of America's mayors for HR 8, the Bipartisan Background Checks Act, and HR 1446, the Enhanced Background Checks Act, and urge you to vote for both of these bills when they come up for a vote in the House.

The U.S. Conference of Mayors has had strong policy for many years in support of strengthening the background check system, which HR 8 would do. It would close serious loopholes in the background check system by requiring all firearm purchases—both handguns and long guns—to undergo a NICS background check, help prevent dangerous individuals from circumventing the laws on the books and obtaining deadly weapons, reduce firearms trafficking by prohibiting unlicensed transfers through unregulated secondary sales, and aid law enforcement's ability to trace crime guns, which depends on licensed gun dealers' sales records.

HR 1446 would further strengthen the background check system by helping us to ensure that background checks are completed before weapons are sold and that dangerous individuals who should not have them are unable to purchase them. If this bill had been law in June of 2015, the terrible tragedy that occurred at the Emmanuel AME Church in Charleston could have been avoided.

HR 8 and HR 1446 are sensible gun safety bills that will make our cities safer and in no way compromise gun owners' rights. It's time for Congress to act to reduce gun violence and the terrible toll it takes in our cities and in our nation and pass them now.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Greg Fischer in black ink.

Greg Fischer
Mayor of Louisville
President

Handwritten signature of Nan Whaley in blue ink.

Nan Whaley
Mayor of Dayton
Vice President

Handwritten signature of Tom Cochran in black ink.

Tom Cochran
CEO and Executive Director