



# THE UNITED STATES CONFERENCE OF MAYORS

1620 EYE STREET, NORTHWEST  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006  
TELEPHONE (202) 293-7330  
FAX (202) 293-2352  
TDD (202) 293-9445  
URL: [www.usmayors.org/uscm](http://www.usmayors.org/uscm)

June 2, 2022

*In response to the recent tragedies in Uvalde and Buffalo and the continuing increase in gun violence that is plaguing our cities and our people across this nation, the U.S. Conference of Mayors today is reissuing the letter sent by more than 200 mayors to the United States Senate in August of 2019. The same two bills passed the House more than one year ago and are again pending in the Senate: H.R. 8, the Bipartisan Background Check Act and H.R. 1446, the Enhanced Background Checks Act. We have updated the list of original signatories, removed those mayors who no longer are in office, and added new mayors who have asked to be listed.*

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August 8, 2019

The Honorable Mitch McConnell  
Majority Leader  
United States Senate (KY)

The Honorable Charles E. Schumer  
Democratic Leader  
United States Senate (NY)

Dear Leader McConnell and Leader Schumer:

## **RE: Senate Action Needed NOW on Gun Safety Legislation**

On behalf of The United States Conference of Mayors, we urge you to immediately call the Senate back to Washington to take action on bipartisan gun safety legislation.

Already in 2019, there have been over 250 mass shootings. The tragic events in El Paso and Dayton this weekend are just the latest reminders that our nation can no longer wait for our federal government to take the actions necessary to prevent people who should not have access to firearms from being able to purchase them.

In late February, the House of Representatives passed two bills that would greatly strengthen the background check system:

- H.R. 8, the Bipartisan Background Check Act of 2019
- H.R. 1112, the Enhanced Background Checks Act of 2019

H.R. 8 passed the House on February 27 on a bipartisan vote of 240-190. It would close serious loopholes in the background check system by:

- requiring all firearm purchases to undergo a NICS background check;
- helping to prevent dangerous individuals from obtaining deadly weapons by circumventing the laws on the books;
- prohibiting unlicensed transfers of guns through unregulated secondary sales; and
- increasing law enforcement's ability to trace crime guns.

H.R. 1112 passed the House on February 28 on a bipartisan vote of 228-198. If this bill had been law in 2015, the terrible tragedy that occurred at the Emanuel AME Church in Charleston might have been avoided. The bill would extend the background check review period deadline from three to 10 business days, to help ensure that background checks are completed before weapons are sold and that dangerous individuals who should not have them are unable to purchase them.

H.R. 8 and H.R. 1112 are bipartisan, sensible gun safety bills that would make our cities and our people safer, and would in no way compromise gun owners' rights.

We urge you to call the Senate back to session now to take up and pass these bills to help reduce gun violence and the terrible toll it takes in our cities and our nation.

Quick passage of these bills is a critical step to reducing gun violence in our country. The United States Conference of Mayors stands ready to work with Congress, the Administration and others to develop holistic remedies to the scourge of gun violence. America has proven time and again that we can rise to our most difficult challenges. We look forward to working with you to find a way forward to protect our citizens from this senseless carnage.

Sincerely,

Francis X. Suarez  
Mayor of Miami, FL  
President

Hillary Schieve  
Mayor of Reno, NV  
Second Vice President

Tom Cochran  
CEO and Executive Director

Elizabeth B. Kautz  
Mayor of Burnsville, MN  
Past President

Bryan K. Barnett  
Mayor of Rochester Hills, MI  
Past President

Greg Fischer  
Mayor of Louisville, KY  
Past President

Steven Reed  
Mayor of Montgomery, AL

Peter Christie  
Mayor of Bella Vista, AR

Lioneld Jordan  
Mayor of Fayetteville, AR

Frank D. Scott Jr.  
Mayor of Little Rock, AR

John Giles  
Mayor of Mesa, AZ

Kate Gallego  
Mayor of Phoenix, AZ

Corey Woods  
Mayor of Tempe, AZ

Regina Romero  
Mayor of Tucson, AZ

Marilyn Ezzy Ashcraft  
Mayor of Alameda, CA

Melissa Ramoso  
Mayor of Artesia, CA

Jesse Arreguin  
Mayor of Berkeley, CA

Lili Bosse  
Mayor of Beverly Hills, CA

Lula Davis-Holmes  
Mayor of Carson, CA

Javier Lopez  
Mayor of Ceres, CA

Mary Casillas Salas  
Mayor of Chula Vista, CA

Porsche Middleton  
Mayor of Citrus Heights, CA

Jed Leano  
Mayor of Claremont, CA

Elizabeth Alcantar  
Mayor of Cudahy, CA

Newell Arnerich  
Mayor of Danville, CA

Catherine S. Blakespear  
Mayor of Encinitas, CA

Acquanetta Warren  
Mayor of Fontana, CA

Lily Mei  
Mayor of Fremont, CA

Jerry Dyer  
Mayor of Fresno, CA

Barbara Halliday  
Mayor of Hayward, CA

Linda Evans  
Mayor of La Quinta, CA

Jenelle Osborne  
Mayor of Lompoc, CA

Robert Garcia  
Mayor of Long Beach, CA

Eric Garcetti  
Mayor of Los Angeles, CA

Hildy Stern  
Mayor of Manhattan Beach, CA

Heber Marquez  
Mayor of Maywood, CA

Betsy Nash  
Mayor of Menlo Park, CA

Alejandra Sotelo-Solis  
Mayor of National City, CA

Alan L. Nagy  
Mayor of Newark, CA

Libby Schaaf  
Mayor of Oakland, CA

Michael M. Vargas  
Mayor of Perris, CA

Teresa Barrett  
Mayor of Petaluma, CA

Monica Sanchez  
Mayor of Pico Rivera, CA

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Mayor of Rancho Cordova, CA

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Mayor of Richmond, CA

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Mayor of Sacramento, CA

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Mayor of San Diego, CA

London N. Breed  
Mayor of San Francisco, CA

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Mayor of San Jose, CA

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Mayor of San Leandro, CA

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Mayor of Santa Monica, CA

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Mayor of Seaside, CA

Al Rios  
Mayor of South Gate, CA

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Mayor of St. Helena, CA

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Mayor of Torrance, CA

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Mayor of Wilmington, DE

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Mayor of Atlanta, GA

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Mayor of Union City, CA

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Mayor of West Sacramento, CA

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Mayor of Deerfield Beach, FL

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Mayor of Gainesville, FL

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Mayor of Hallandale Beach, FL

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Mayor of Lauderdale Lakes, FL

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Mayor of Bloomington, IL

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Mayor of Hartford, CT

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Mayor of Sunrise, FL

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Mayor of Hanover Park, IL

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Mayor of Washington, DC

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