

#TheTimesNow

January 30, 2023

Dear President Biden,

During your first two years in office, you signed into law historic bipartisan gun violence reduction legislation, secured the confirmation of a permanent director to head the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF), directed funding for evidence-based community violence prevention and intervention programs, put forward a plan for tackling rising firearm homicides, and issued multiple executive actions aimed at addressing this public health epidemic. We applaud you for prioritizing the national crisis of gun violence.

Unfortunately, gun deaths and injuries continue to ravage our country, impacting Asian American, Black and Brown communities, and neighborhoods all across the country. In the first few weeks of 2023, at least 69 people have been killed in mass shootings, including multiple tragedies in California, Florida, and Louisiana, and thousands of lives have been lost to interpersonal gun violence and firearm suicide. While Congress must continue to prioritize gun violence prevention, you have the opportunity to act boldly by announcing a comprehensive plan of action to reduce gun deaths at the State of the Union on February 7, 2023.

Such a plan should include:

- Declaring a national emergency around the epidemic of gun violence and establishing a federal office of gun violence prevention and appoint a full-time director to streamline the federal, state, and local government's efforts to save lives.
- Calling on Congress to commit \$5 billion in funding for community violence intervention programs that help disrupt cycles of interpersonal gun violence, encourage states to apply for and increase available funding for community violence prevention, and incentivize states and cities to establish offices of gun violence prevention.
- Announcing a series of executive actions to reduce gun deaths, including fully enforcing the ban on importation of foreign-made assault weapons that do not have a "sporting purpose" and instructing the Federal Trade Commission to promulgate regulations that prohibit unfair or deceptive acts or practices related to the advertising or marketing of firearms to minors.
- Using the office and power of the President to communicate the scope of this crisis with the American people and develop honest, educational, and culturally relevant public campaigns that focus on the inherent risks of keeping firearms in the home, especially around child access and suicide.
- Outlining a detailed plan to fully implement the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act, including ensuring funding for violence intervention is directed to communities most impacted by violence and youth-focused violence prevention programs in schools, training NICS investigators to properly conduct background checks on gun buyers under age 21, addressing the background check loophole by

clarifying who is considered “engaged in the business” of selling firearms, and using the new firearms trafficking statute to target the largest sources of crime guns.

The growing gun violence crisis and the stated intention of the new leadership in the House of Representatives to block life-saving legislation demands a higher level of leadership from your White House. We urge you to lay out a concrete plan of action for saving lives at the State of the Union.

Sincerely,

THE TIME IS NOW COALITION MEMBERS

AAPI Victory Alliance

Advocates For Change

AFT Colorado

Alliance for Gun Responsibility

American Federation of Teachers

American Federation of Teachers Colorado

American Medical Women’s Association

Amnesty International USA

Arizonans For Gun Safety

Ban Assault Weapons NOW!

BPFNA~Bautistas por la Paz

Brady

Brady Stanislaus County Modesto CA

Brave New Films

Broward for Progress

Ceasefire Oregon

CeaseFirePA

Center for Asian Americans in Action

Change the Ref

Chi-Town GVP Summit

Chicago Survivors Org.

Community Justice Action Fund

CT Against Gun Violence

Culver 878

Delaware Coalition Against Gun Violence

DemCast USA

Doctors for America

Equality California

Falmouth Gun Safety Coalition

Franciscan Action Network

Gays Against Guns

Global Exchange

Grandmothers Against Gun Violence MA

Grandmothers Against Gun Violence WA

Grandparents for Gun Safety KS/MO

Gun Violence Prevention PAC

Guns Down America

GVPAction Committee

GVPedia

Harpwell Indivisible

Health Care Awareness Month
Honor with Action Coalition
Illinois Alliance to Prevent Gun Violence
IMPACT (Illinois Medical Professionals Action Collaborative Team)
Indivisible Auburn, CA
Indivisible Georgia Coalition
Indivisible Northern Nevada
Indivisible Sonoma County
JACPAC
Jeann Michel Cousteau's Ocean Futures Society
Jewish Women International
Journey4ward
Jr Newtown Action Alliance
Justice4Ellis
MA Coalition to Prevent Gun Violence
Maine Council of Churches
Maine Gun Safety Coalition
March For Our Lives
March Fourth
Marylanders to Prevent Gun Violence
MomsRising
Monmouth Center for World Religions and Ethical Thought
National Alliance for the Empowerment of the Formerly Incarcerated
National Asian Pacific American Families Against Substance Abuse
National Asian American Pacific Islander Mental Health Association
National Coalition Against Domestic Violence
National Council of Jewish Women
Nevada NOW
NeverAgainCA
New Foundation of Hope
Newtown Action Alliance
#NoRA
North American Climate, Conservation and Environment(NACCE)
Northridge Indivisible
NWSOFA Gun Violence Prevention Team
Oak Park Temple
Oregonizers
Peace Love Em Inc
People for a Safer Society
Postcards for America
Prevent Gun Violence Florida, Inc.
Prevention Institute
Protest Easy Guns
Pursuit of tRuth
Rainbow PUSH Coalition
Remembering Darien
Rocky Mountain Hye Advocates
Sacred Ground
San Diegans for Gun Violence Prevention

Safer CA
Safer Country
Silver State Equality - Nevada
Sisters of Mercy of the Americas Justice Team
Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet, LA
South Asian Network
St. Mark's Episcopal Church Capitol Hill
States United to Prevent Gun Violence
Stop Handgun Violence
Survivors Empowered
Survivors Lead
Teachers Unify to End Gun Violence
The Campaign to Keep Guns Off Campus
The Ethan Miller Song Foundation
The Gathering for Justice
The United Methodist Church -- General Board of Church and Society
The Workers Circle
This Is Our Lane
Together We Will/Indivisible-Los Gatos
Union for Reform Judaism
Urban Community Unity Solutions LLC (U.C.U.S.)
Veterans For Peace Maine Chapter
Violent Crime Survivors
Vision Morton Grove
Vision Quilt: Together We Can Prevent Gun Violence
VoteVets
WAVE Educational Fund
Women Against Gun Violence
Women of Color Coalition