



October 28, 2019

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Majority Leader
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Charles E. Schumer
Democratic Leader
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Leader McConnell and Leader Schumer:

We write on behalf of the nation's mayors and the police chiefs of our major cities to urge the Senate to consider immediate legislation that would establish a strong system for background checks that will cover all firearms purchases. Such legislation is supported by more than 90 percent of Americans. It is bipartisan, sensible gun safety legislation that will make our cities safer and in no way compromise gun owners' rights.

We urge you to immediately take up commonsense legislation that will help to reduce the scourge of everyday gun violence and the slaughter of innocent people during what feels like never-ending mass shooting events in our schools, entertainment venues, places of worship, businesses, and homes. These tragic incidents are plaguing our nation and our cities, cutting short precious human lives, and tearing apart the fabric of our families and our communities.

Our organizations have looked to Washington for many years to take a leadership role in passing commonsense measures to keep firearms in the hands of law-abiding Americans and out of the hands of those who would do harm to our families, friends, and neighbors. We have supported and fought for legislative initiatives that would help us keep our cities safe. The time to act is now!

The nation's mayors and police chiefs stand ready to work with you to make this happen.

Sincerely,

A blue ink signature of Bryan K. Barnett, consisting of stylized initials and a surname.

Bryan K. Barnett
Mayor of Rochester Hills, MI
President, The U.S. Conference of Mayors

A blue ink signature of Art Acevedo, consisting of stylized initials and a surname.

Art Acevedo
Chief, Houston Police Department
President, Major Cities Chiefs Association

cc. Members of the United States Senate