Date

Senator/Representative Name

Address

Dear Senator/Representative Name:

Sadly, gun violence has once again reached into the halls of Congress – Steve Scalise in June, 2017 and Gabrielle Giffords in January, 2011. But even more sadly, there is nothing remarkable about this latest senseless tragedy. It is just the most recent episode in the ongoing carnage gun violence wreaks daily on our communities. From a shopping center in Tucson, AZ to a schoolhouse in Newton, CT to a nightclub in Orlando, FL to a ballfield in Alexandria, VA the story is always the same. Only the number of victims changes. Consider these horrifying facts:

* 30,000 Americans die from gun violence each year – that’s 82 per day every single day.
* Americans are roughly 20 times more likely to be murdered with a gun than people in other developed countries.
* Every day 8 children under the age of 20 are killed by guns.
* Between 2001 and 2012, a total of 6,410 women were murdered in the United States by an intimate partner using a gun – more than the total number of U.S. troops killed in action during the entirety of the Iraq and Afghanistan wars combined.

Gun violence long ago reached epidemic proportions in the U.S. I would have hoped by now we could all agree that, notwithstanding what the NRA preaches, more guns are not the answer. Still, one reason we continue to suffer so much needless misery from guns is our notoriously weak laws. That’s where you come in.

 I strongly urge you to take the lead on fighting for common sense gun laws in this country instead of weakening existing laws. Mandatory federal background checks before anyone can buy any gun, anywhere, from anyone, would be a good place to start. Tough laws against gun trafficking would be a good second step. Many years of surveys prove that mandatory background checks are supported by over 90% of Americans including the vast majority of gun owners. Virtually all law abiding citizens oppose gun trafficking. Politically there really is no downside to this issue. How many more people must get shot before you do the right thing? Please be part of the solution to this plague of gun violence. Propose and support mandatory background checks for all gun buyers and help crack down on rampant gun trafficking. Our lives literally depend on this.

Sincerely,

Your name and address