

SAMPLE LETTER FOR STATE LEGISLATORS

Dear (Name of State Legislator)

Thank you for the work you do on my behalf as representatives. Last week we all grieved for the lives of 19 children and two teachers killed at Robb Elementary School in Uvalde, Texas. In recent weeks, there have been other mass shootings and numerous other shooting deaths since the first of the year. Some were suicides. Some were children who accidentally discharged guns, and some were those who took their guns to school or other public places with the intent to kill.

Our state legislature has united around solving major problems in our state in the past. You've worked across the aisle to do what was in the best interest of our state. I'd like to ask that you work in a bi-partisan way to reduce the likelihood of more gun violence. Please, take action to protect our children and the people of Wisconsin.

To that end, I write to encourage bi-partisan efforts to reduce gun violence focused on:

Expanding Mental Health Access:

Please increase investments in mental wellness services in our schools and communities.

Responsible Gun Storage: The largest number of gun deaths each year are suicides, often with young adults using guns owned by their parents. In addition, children find guns and inadvertently harm themselves. Please pass legislation requiring guns be stored with a trigger lock in place. This will help prevent the needless deaths and the misuse of parents' guns by children.

Licensure and Training: Permit laws are the single most effective way to reduce gun violence. States with permit laws of any kind have less gun violence than those without. Please reinstate or expand licenses and training requirements to own a gun.

Background Checks: Background checks are among the easiest laws to change through private party sales, gun shows and trading of weapons. Please pass universal background checks for all gun purchases, trades and transfers.

You have the power, as legislators, to leave a legacy of safer schools and communities, and better policies to protect lives. Please take action for the good of Wisconsin.

Sincerely,
(Your name and address)

SAMPLE LETTER FOR FEDERAL LEGISLATORS

Dear (Name of Federal Legislator)

Thank you for the work you do every day on behalf of the American people and on my behalf as my Representative.

Last week we all grieved for the lives of 19 children and two teachers killed at Robb Elementary School in Uvalde, Texas. In recent weeks, there have been other mass shootings and numerous other shooting deaths since the first of the year. Some were suicides. Some were children who accidentally discharged guns, and some were those who took their guns to school or other public places with the intent to kill.

Congress has united around solving major problems in the past and now is our chance to solve a problem and make the world a better place.

To that end, I write to encourage bi-partisan efforts to reduce gun violence focused on:

Research Funding Focused on Reducing Violence Committed by and against Children: We can address this problem, but it will take bi-partisan support of serious research identifying root causes of this violence and practical solutions to address this problem. Please increase funding for research at the federal level on causes of and actions that can be taken to reduce violence committed by young adults, and against children and teens.

Responsible Gun Storage: The largest number of gun deaths each year are suicides, often with young adults using guns owned by their parents. In addition, children find guns and inadvertently harm themselves. Please pass legislation requiring guns be stored with a trigger lock in place. This will help prevent the needless deaths and the misuse of parents' guns by children.

Licensure & Training: Permit laws are the single most effective way to reduce gun violence. States with permit laws of any kind have less gun violence than those without. Please provide incentives to states where permit and training laws already exist, and to those where they are expanded, or are enacted.

Background Checks: Background checks are among the easiest laws to change through private party sales, gun shows and trading of weapons. Please establish processes and upgrade technology to help states share this information seamlessly and quickly to maximize public safety.

You have the power, as legislators, to leave a legacy of safer schools, and better policies to protect lives. Please take action for the good of our country.

Sincerely, (Your name and address)