

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, DC 20515-0552**

October 13, 2015

Honorable Mitch McConnell  
Senate Majority Leader  
317 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Honorable Harry Reid  
Democratic Leader  
522 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Honorable John A. Boehner  
Speaker of the House of Representatives  
H-232, U.S. Capitol  
Washington, DC 20515

Honorable Nancy Pelosi  
Democratic Leader  
H-204, U.S. Capitol  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Sirs and Madam,

We write to you today as members of the San Diego community who are heartbroken, outraged, and fed-up with the ineffective and blasé approach Congress has taken toward the gun violence epidemic in the United States.

Since the senseless shooting at Sandy Hook, there have been 149 school shootings. We have watched in horror and sadness as children, brothers, sisters, mothers, fathers, husbands and wives have been snatched from their loved ones by individuals who had no businesses having a gun.

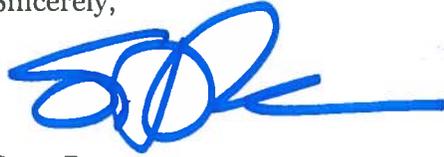
While we can debate whether or not individuals need access to military-style weapons and ammunition, we should all agree that we must do more to ensure that people who should not have guns are unable to get guns. At a minimum, we should pass Universal Background Checks and close background check loopholes immediately. We must do this now by bringing the bi-partisan King-Thompson Public Safety and Second Amendment Rights Protection Act up for a vote in the U.S. House of Representatives. As recent Quinnipiac University polling showed, more than 90% of Americans favor background checks for all gun buyers, including more than 95% of Democrats and 85% of Republicans.

We, San Diegans, urge every member of Congress in the strongest of terms to take a stand and put an end to the epidemic of senseless gun violence that has taken the lives of too, too many, too, too soon.

Our children should not live in a world where they need to practice what to do when someone enters their school with a gun. We should not have to explain to our children that, no matter where they are, they are never safe, that at any moment, someone may approach them in a mall, in the movie theater, or at school and start shooting.

Thoughts and prayers are not enough. We have the power to keep families safe and together instead of broken forever. But only if you have the courage to act.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'SP', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Scott Peters  
Member of Congress  
US House of Representatives  
California, 52<sup>nd</sup> District