



February 6, 2020

The Honorable Tom Lee  
Chair  
Florida Senate Infrastructure and Security Committee  
418 Senate Building  
Tallahassee, FL 32399

Dear Senator Lee,

As you lead the effort to consider legislation this session to prevent gun violence, including mass shootings, we write to express our support for passing a state law to require criminal background checks on all gun sales. Florida state law currently does not require background checks on unlicensed gun sales, leaving a massive loophole in place that makes it far too easy for criminals, people prohibited from having guns because of mental illness, and others with dangerous histories to get their hands on guns through private, online or gun show sales.

Fifteen states have passed laws to require background checks on all gun sales. Background check laws —by point-of-sale check and/or permit— are associated with lower rates of firearm homicide, suicide and firearm trafficking. The Florida Legislature should build upon the important gun violence legislation passed following the Parkland mass shooting and pass a comprehensive background check law.

Respectfully,

**Honorable Mayor John Dailey, City of Tallahassee**

**Honorable Mayor Christine Hunschofsky, City of Parkland**

**Honorable Mayor Buddy Dyer, City of Orlando**

**Honorable Mayor Oliver Gilbert, City of Miami Gardens**

**Honorable Mayor Jane Castor, City of Tampa**

**Honorable Mayor Lauren Poe, City of Gainesville**

**Honorable Mayor Carlos Gimenez, County of Miami Dade**

**Honorable Mayor Scott Brook, City of Coral Springs**

**Honorable Mayor Philip K. Stoddard , City of South Miami**

**Honorable Mayor Philippe Bien-Aime , City of North Miami**

**Honorable Mayor Sam Henderson, City of Gulfport**

**Honorable Mayor Greg Ross, City of Cooper City**

**Honorable Mayor Michael J. Ryan, City of Sunrise**

**Honorable Mayor Sandra L. Welch, City of Coconut Creek**

**Honorable Mayor Daniel Dietch, Town of Surfside**

**Honorable Mayor Joseph M. Corradino, Village of Pinecrest**