

June 19, 2016

United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator:

The 58 undersigned national public health, medical, and research organizations write to urge you to **vote yes on S.Amdt. 4750 and S.Amdt. 4720 to the Commerce-Justice-Science appropriations bill, S. 2837/H.R. 2578**. S.Amdt. 4750, offered by Senator Murphy, and S.Amdt. 4720, offered by Senator Feinstein, represent critical steps to protect the public health.

Following the massacre of 49 individuals in Orlando, Florida last weekend, we are presented with yet another opportunity to act to address the scourge of gun violence. There were over 33,000 firearm-related deaths in 2013, according to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). **S.Amdt. 4750** would expand background checks on all gun purchases, and **S.Amdt. 4720** would make it more difficult for known or suspected terrorists to purchase firearms. These proposals would help to reduce access to guns, and would help to save countless lives.

Our groups have been advocating for gun violence prevention strategies for decades. In addition to passing these two amendments, we would welcome the opportunity to work with you in the future to support funding for gun violence prevention research and public health surveillance, including \$10 million to support gun violence prevention research at the CDC.

We urge you to **vote yes on the Murphy and Feinstein amendments to the Commerce-Justice-Science appropriations bill**. We thank you for your leadership and look forward to working with you on these and other measures to reduce gun violence in our country.

Sincerely,

Academic Pediatric Association
American Academy of Pediatrics
American Association of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry
American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy
Academic Consortium for Integrative Medicine and Health
American College of Physicians
American College of Preventive Medicine
American Geriatrics Society
American Medical Student Association
American Medical Women's Association
American Pediatric Society
American Psychological Association
American Public Health Association
American Society of Hematology

American Thoracic Society
Association of American Medical Colleges
Association of Maternal & Child Health Programs
Association of Medical School Pediatric Department Chairs
Association of State and Territorial Health Officials
Big Cities Health Coalition
Brady Campaign united with Million Mom March
California Chapter of the American College of Emergency Physicians
Care for the Homeless
Child Welfare League of America
Coalition to Stop Gun Violence
Cure Violence
Delaware Academy of Medicine / Delaware Public Health Association
Doctors Council SEIU
Doctors for America
Foundation for Healthy Generations
Futures Without Violence
Global Healthy Living Foundation
HealthHIV
National Association of County and City Health Officials
National AHEC Organization
National Association of Social Workers
National Association of State Head Injury Administrators
National Coalition for LGBT Health
National Health Care for the Homeless Council
National Hispanic Health Foundation
National Hispanic Medical Association
National Medical Association
National Network of Public Health Institutes
National Physicians Alliance
Pediatric Policy Council
Physicians for the Prevention of Gun Violence
Physicians for Reproductive Health
Prevention Institute
Public Health Institute
Research!America
Suicide Awareness Voices of Education
School-Based Health Alliance
Society for Pediatric Research
Society for Public Health Education
Society of General Internal Medicine
Student National Medical Association
The Koop Institute
Trust for America's Health