

## ACTION ALERT

August 5, 2019

National Federation of Democratic Women President Cindy Jenks is issuing a statement following the latest mass shootings:

"We stand in solidarity with the cities of El Paso, Texas and Dayton, Ohio. We are grieving along side of our brothers and sisters in these communities and throughout our country, The senseless actions of these shooters has reverberated throughout the very fiber of our country.

Today, I am calling on NFDW members to contact their U.S. Senators and other elected officials to demand action on pending gun safety legislation," said Jenks.

NFDW members are demanding that Senator Mitch McConnell shall call the U.S. Senate back into session and pass the gun safety legislation that the U.S. House passed and sent to the Senate in February 2019. The Senate has not considered HR 8, the Bipartisan Background Checks Act, or HR 1112, the Enhanced Background Check Act; both important pieces of gun safety legislation. According to the Gun Violence Archive, there have been 255 shootings in the United States during 2019.

Under current law, only <u>licensed gun dealers</u> are required to perform background checks. Even if a background check isn't finalized within <u>three</u> <u>days</u>, a gun sale is permitted to go through.

The three-day loophole allowed the shooter who killed nine people at a church in Charleston, South Carolina in 2015, to obtain his weapon. The Virginia Tech shooting in 2007 and an attack at a church in Sutherland Springs, Texas also could have been prevented with a stronger background check system, experts say. Polling has also revealed that 90% of U.S.A. citizens want to see universal background check enacted.

NFDW is also demanding that funding shall be restored to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention so that the causes of gun violence can be studied. It is critically important that the F.B.I. establish a domestic terrorist unit that will work to prevent gun violence in our country.