



February 21, 2018

To the Honorable Marguerite Quinn,

We are the Bucks County Women's Advocacy Coalition Youth Committee, a group of concerned, and frankly, frustrated, Central Bucks high school students. We are the children of your constituents, and though we cannot vote, your action or inaction impacts us directly. Today we demand that you take a stand. Since 2013, there has been on average one mass shooting per week. Let's be clear: there is nothing normal about this new "normal". There is nothing normal about taking time out of our school day to practice drills to attack and disarm a gunman, forcing us to take our lives into our own hands. Why, then, can't our elected officials take guns out of the hands of society's most dangerous? It has been said before, and we will say it again: thoughts and prayers are not enough.

We understand that you are bringing a bill to the table that complements Senate Bill 501, tightening restrictions for those under a protection from abuse order to surrender their weapons. We wholeheartedly support this legislation; however, why have you not then co-sponsored House Bill 1400? As you are aware, this bill requires background checks for those purchasing long guns. Without this it, SB501 is useless. An abuser can simply go to a gun show and purchase an AR-15, commonly used in mass shootings. There is a concrete link between domestic violence and mass shooting, with 54% of gunmen in mass shootings killing a family member as well.

This is not a political issue; this a public health epidemic. The signatures on this letter attest to the will of our fellow students, that gun violence cannot be ignored.

Our lives are at stake.

Respectfully,

Signed by our BCWAC Youth Advocacy Committee and
102 of their fellow students in Central Bucks High Schools



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To the Honorable Chuck McIllhinney,

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We understand that you have co-sponsored SB 501, tightening restrictions for those under a protection from abuse order to surrender their weapons. We wholeheartedly support this legislation, but cannot understand why you have not co-sponsored SB 209, which supports background checks. SB501 is useless without background checks, because abusers can simply go to a gun show and purchase a long gun, no questions asked. In this vein, we also demand that you support Senator Browne's bill to ban bump stocks. There is no reason why a someone using a gun recreationally would need a device that mimics automatic weaponry. We came to your office last year in regard to SB 383, which would have allowed teachers to carry guns in schools. You were receptive then to the cause of keeping students safe, and so we implore you to use the time you have left in office to be bold, and do what's right.

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