



July 5, 2016

The Honorable Mitch McConnell  
Majority Leader  
U.S. Senate  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Harry Reid  
Minority Leader  
U.S. Senate  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Paul Ryan  
Speaker  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi  
Minority Leader  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Majority Leader McConnell, Minority Leader Reid, Speaker Ryan, Minority Leader Pelosi:

For decades, the American Nurses Association (ANA) has called on Congress to enact sensible legislation aimed at reducing gun violence.

In the wake of the Orlando massacre, ANA, representing the voice of more than 3.6 million registered nurses is renewing its call to action by urging Congress to immediately repeal restrictions prohibiting the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) from studying gun violence.

At an alarming rate, registered nurses and other health professionals, in emergency departments, hospitals and clinics across the country, are being called upon to care for victims of mass shootings, homicides, suicides, and accidental shootings.

As the largest single group of health care professionals, nurses are increasingly caring for those victimized by gun violence and those forced to confront the physical and emotional consequences of these senseless acts.

Last week during its annual Membership Assembly gathering, the American Nurses Association (ANA) issued a declaration that calls for the ban on gun violence research to be lifted.

We need research to develop meaningful, evidence-based prevention strategies critical to ending gun violence. As a minimum step toward meaningful progress, ANA respectfully urges you to repeal language blocking the CDC from conducting gun violence research and provide appropriate funding to examine the causes and prevention strategies for gun violence.

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,

Tim Casey, Senior Associate Director of Government Affairs  
American Nurses Association