

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

September 12, 2025

The Honorable Tim Walberg
Chairman
House Education and Workforce Committee
2176 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Robert Scott
Ranking Member
House Education and Workforce Committee
2328 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Walberg and Ranking Member Scott,

We write to request the House Committee on Education and Workforce hold a full Committee hearing on school shootings and safety in American schools. Preventing school shootings requires a multifaceted approach that includes mental health support, community engagement, gun safety measures, and educational programs. The requested hearing should focus on identifying trends and crafting legislation that will support local communities in keeping children safe in school and preventing gun violence.

According to the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Wonder database, in 2023, firearms accounted for 18% of childhood deaths.^[1][1] School shootings have become more common, and Congress must explore ways to keep children safe. In the past two weeks there has been shootings at a Catholic School in Minnesota, a High School in Colorado, and a University in Utah. No community or demographic is immune from the scourge of gun violence and school shootings.

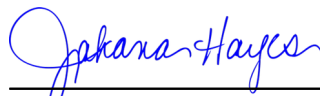
Children should not live in fear every time they go to school or assemble at a college or university. We need meaningful action to keep our students, teachers, and schools safe and a plan to address the underlying causes of gun violence. During the 117th Congress, Republicans and Democrats were able to work together to pass the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act, the first significant gun safety legislation in nearly thirty years. This legislation enhanced background checks, closed loopholes for domestic abusers, invested in school mental health services, state crisis intervention programs, and community-based violence prevention initiatives. These most recent school shooting are yet another reminder of the urgent need for us to build on this crucial work. This Committee has the ability to bring together experts and individuals with firsthand experience to help develop federal legislation that implements school security upgrades, invests in mental health services, creates evidence-based crisis and threat assessments, and fosters a positive and trusting school environment.

^[1][1] https://www.cnn.com/health/guns-death-us-children-teens-dg#:~:text=Subscribe-,Children%20and%20teens%20are%20more%20likely%20to%20die%20by%20guns,All%20other%20diseases*

Therefore, we implore the House Committee on Education and Workforce to hold a Full Committee hearing on school shootings and safety in schools before the end of the year and dedicate itself to developing and passing meaningful legislation to combat the gun violence epidemic in our schools.

Thank you. Should you have any additional questions, please reach out to Miranda Ganter at miranda.ganter@mail.house.gov.

Sincerely,



Jahana Hayes
Member of Congress



Joe Courtney
Member of Congress



Alma S. Adams, Ph.D.
Member of Congress



Frederica S. Wilson
Member of Congress



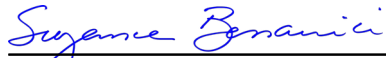
Mark Takano
Member of Congress



John W. Mannion
Member of Congress



Ilhan Omar
Member of Congress



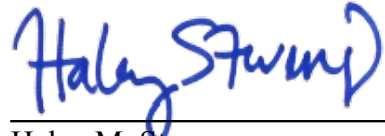
Suzanne Bonamici
Member of Congress



Greg Casar
Member of Congress



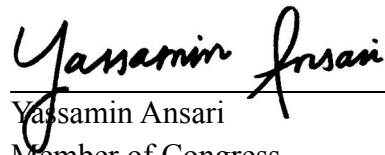
Summer L. Lee
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