



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®
OF THE UNITED STATES

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January 10, 2013

The Honorable Joseph Biden
Vice President
United States of America
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC 20501

Dear Mr. Vice President:

The League of Women Voters of the United States has a long standing position, reached by consensus of our members, in support of Gun Control. Since 1990, we have used this position to lobby in support of the assault weapons ban, legislation requiring all dealers to run criminal background checks at gun shows and in opposition to laws that grant special protection for the gun industry.

The League of Women Voters position on Gun Control is: *The League of Women Voters of the United States believes that the proliferation of handguns and semi-automatic assault weapons in the United States is a major health and safety threat to its citizens. The League supports strong federal measures to limit the accessibility and regulate the ownership of these weapons by private citizens. The League supports regulating firearms for consumer safety.*

The League supports licensing procedures for gun ownership by private citizens to include a waiting period for background checks, personal identity verification, gun safety education and annual license renewal. The license fee should be adequate to bear the cost of education and verification.

The League supports a ban on "Saturday night specials," enforcement of strict penalties for the improper possession of and crimes committed with handguns and assault weapons, and allocation of resources to better regulate and monitor gun dealers.

On behalf of our 140,000 members and supporters, we urge you to propose common sense solutions to the gun violence that is plaguing our nation. It is time to advocate for measures that will ban assault weapons, place limits on magazine size, close the gun show loophole and mandate annual reporting on gun violence in America. Gun control is a matter of public safety and public health.

Respectfully yours,

Elisabeth MacNamara