



# THE UNITED STATES CONFERENCE OF MAYORS

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February 1, 2013

The Honorable Elijah E. Cummings  
Member of Congress  
2235 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Carolyn Maloney  
Member of Congress  
2308 Rayburn House Office building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Scott Rigell  
Member of Congress  
418 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Patrick Meehan  
Member of Congress  
204 Cannon House Office building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representatives Cummings, Rigell, Maloney, and Meehan:

We write to register the strong support of The U.S. Conference of Mayors for the Gun Trafficking Prevention Act of 2013 and our appreciation of your efforts to develop this important legislation.

The U.S. Conference of Mayors has been calling for sensible gun laws to protect the public for more than 40 years. Mayors and police chiefs from cities of all sizes have worked together in this effort over the years.

In an open letter to the President and the Congress sent just three days after the Newtown tragedy occurred we urged immediate action. We called on the President to exercise his powers through Executive Order and the Congress to introduce and pass legislation to make reasonable changes in our gun laws and regulations. Specifically we called on Congress to:

- Enact legislation to ban assault weapons and other high-capacity magazines being prepared by Senator Dianne Feinstein and others;
- Strengthen the national background check system and eliminate loopholes in it;
- Strengthen the penalties for straw purchases of guns.

The legislation which you are proposing clearly responds to our third point. It would provide a dedicated federal statute prohibiting illegal gun trafficking, make gun trafficking a federal crime, and create stronger penalties for straw purchasers who buy firearms for criminals and felons who are prohibited from purchasing them on their own.

Be assured that the nation's mayors will work with you to see Gun Trafficking Prevention Act of 2013 enacted into law.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Michael A. Nutter in blue ink.

Michael A. Nutter  
Mayor of Philadelphia  
President

Handwritten signature of Tom Cochran in black ink.

Tom Cochran  
CEO and Executive Director