Mother’s Day Call For Peace & Legislative Priorities

A Mother’s Day Call For Peace . . .

Arisen, then, women of this day!
Arisen all women who have hearts... Say firmly: “We will not have great questions decided by irrelevant agencies
Our sons shall not be taken from us to unlearn
all that we have been able to teach them of charity,
mercy and patience.
We women of one country, will be too tender of those
of another country to allow our sons to be trained to injure theirs.”
From the bosom of the devastated Earth a voice goes up with our own.
It says: “Disarm! Disarm!” . . .
Let (women) solemnly take counsel with each other
as to the means whereby the great human family
can live in peace . . .

(from Julia Ward Howe’s Mother’s Day Proclamation 1870)

Read about the history of Mother’s Day at this link:
https://peacealliance.org/history-of-mothers-day-as-a-day-of-peace-julia-ward-howe/

Our Call for Peace on Mother’s Day

For Mother’s Day 2018, we too are speaking. We are going to the offices of our federal legislators
with a pie, which represents both Mother’s Day and the federal budget pie chart. We are saying
children are afraid to attend school, sacred spaces of worship have been shattered by bullets from
weapons of war, and the feelings of really being safe in traditionally safe spaces are memories from the
past. We are saying that is not acceptable and that peace wants a piece of the pie to prevent violence.

What would our world look like if we prioritized peace by creating a cabinet-level Department of
Peacebuilding? What if lives were not shattered by violence -- particularly the amplified violence from
the threat of assault weapons -- if all people could live, each day, with hope instead of fear?

We are asking our members of Congress to:

- address the root causes of violence by supporting the Department of Peacebuilding Act of
  2017 (H. R. 1111), which will develop policies that promote nonviolent intervention, national and
  international conflict prevention, structured mediation and peaceful resolution of conflict

- commit resources to address the assault weapons threat, including passing and the Assault
  Weapons Ban of 2018 (H.R. 5087) and the Assault Weapons Ban of 2017 (S. 2095)

- Establish a Select Committee on Gun Violence Prevention (H.Res. 367)

To read more about the bills, see www.congress.gov & enter bill number and see next page of this flyer.

With guns you can kill terrorists, with education you can kill terrorism.
— Malala Yousafzai

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Mother’s Day Legislative Priorities

We ask our federal legislators to cosponsor the following legislation:

**Department of Peacebuilding Act of 2017 (H.R. 1111)**

*H.R.1111* — 115th Congress (2017-2018) To establish a Department of Peacebuilding, and for other purposes.

**What it’s about:** Establish a cabinet level Department of Peacebuilding, to add a voice at the table in the executive branch to address root causes of violence like inequality and poverty through effective programs and policies that create the infrastructures for a culture of peace.

**Sponsor:** [Rep. Lee, Barbara [D-CA-13]](Introduced 02/16/2017)

**Cosponsors:** (40) and **Committees:** House – Oversight and Government Reform

**Assault Weapons Ban of 2018 (H.R. 5087) & Assault Weapons Ban of 2017 (S. 2095)**

**H.R.5087** — 115th Congress (2017-2018) Assault Weapons Ban of 2018

**What it’s about:** To regulate the importation, manufacture, possession, sale or transfer of assault weapons, and for other purposes.

**Sponsor:** [Rep. Cicilline, David N. [D-RI-1]](Introduced 02/26/2018)

**Cosponsors:** (173) and **Committees:** House – Judiciary

**S.2095** — 115th Congress (2017-2018) Assault Weapons Ban of 2017

**What it’s about:** To regulate assault weapons, to ensure that the right to keep and bear arms is not unlimited, and for other purposes.

**Sponsor:** [Sen. Feinstein, Dianne [D-CA]](Introduced 11/08/2017)

**Cosponsors:** (25) and **Committees:** Senate – Judiciary

**Establish a Select Committee on Gun Violence Prevention (H.R. 367)**


**What it’s about:** Establishes the House Select Committee on Gun Violence Prevention to investigate and report on:

- the causes of mass shootings,
- methods to improve the federal firearms purchaser background check system,
- connections between access to firearms and dangerously mentally ill individuals,
- strengthening federal penalties for trafficking and straw purchasing of firearms,
- closing loopholes that allow some domestic abusers continued access to firearms,
- linkages between firearms and suicide,
- gun violence’s effect on public health,
- the correlation between state gun violence prevention laws and the incidence of gun violence,
- the importance of having reliable & accurate information on gun violence & its toll on our nation,
- the implementation of effective gun violence prevention laws in accordance with the Second Amendment to the Constitution, and
- rates of gun violence in large metropolitan areas.

**Sponsor:** [Rep. Thompson, Mike [D-CA-5]](Introduced 05/25/2017)

**Cosponsors:** (164) and **Committees:** House – Rules

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