YOUR VOICE MATTERS. BE HEARD! *#GoodTrouble*

MAKE GOOD TROUBLE! HERE'S HOW:

- **Go to a town hall** or other public event. Find one near you: *ResistanceNearMe.org*.
- **Hold Members Accountable.** Members of Congress need to hear directly from their constituents. Ask them a question that concerns you. Use these cards as a guide and make sure to get a straight answer. Don't let them give you a non-answer. You deserve better! Hold them to it.
- **Share it on Social Media.** Make a video of your Q & A and share it on social media using ***#GoodTrouble***.
- **Stay informed.** Visit *BradyCampaign.org* to learn more about gun violence prevention, join a chapter near you or start one. For more tips on how to impact your elected officials visit *IndivisibleGuide.com*

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CUT

ARM ANYONE

- The NRA calls this Concealed Carry Reciprocity. The truth is that it forces all states to adhere to the state with the **weakest** gun laws – taking away every other state's right to protect its citizens.
- If Congress passes this law, the George Zimmermans of this world can pack heat in any neighborhood, town or state, regardless of local laws or the wishes of local law enforcement.
- The NRA wants us to believe more guns make us safer. Studies show that is not the case and defies common sense in any event. We all know that even small disagreements can turn deadly when a gun is present.
- Some states require only a 30-minute online training for concealed gun permits. In some places it's harder to get a fishing license than a concealed carry permit.

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CUT

Questions for Elected Officials: Arm Anyone

Congress is contemplating legislation allowing dangerous people to carry hidden, loaded guns anywhere. What will you do to keep dangerous people, like George Zimmerman, from carrying a hidden gun in OUR neighborhoods--or even right here, right now?

Learning basic gun-safety should be a prerequisite to carrying a hidden, loaded gun. Congress disagrees. What's your plan to correct that?

You say you support law enforcement. They oppose Arm Anyone proposals? Will you back them up? How?

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Support & Defend our Brady National Instant Background Check System (NICS)

- On average, Brady background checks block 343 gun sales to prohibited purchasers per day, including 171 felons, 48 domestic abusers, and 19 fugitives.
- Brady background checks have blocked more than 3 million gun sales since 1994.
- People who are at higher risk of suicide (including those in serious crisis or adjudicated mentally incompetent) need better access to mental health services, not easy access to guns.
- Over 90% of Americans support criminal background checks for all gun buyers.

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Questions for Elected Officials on the Background Checks System

Do you support background checks on all gun sales? If so, how will you work to get Congress to require them?

Do you think felons or domestic abusers should be able to walk into a gun show or go online and buy a gun without a background check? Because in many states, they can do exactly that, today.

Do you think people who are a danger to themselves or others, like the VA Tech shooter, should be reported to the background check system without exception?

Will you commit right now – in front of your constituents – to making sure nobody can buy a gun in this country without passing a criminal background check?

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Expand Brady Background Checks to All Gun Sales & Close Existing Loopholes

- The Brady Law has stopped over 3 million prohibited purchasers from getting guns.
- 19 states with about 50% of the U.S. population have expanded background checks; six of those states require background checks for all gun sales.
- On average, 2 prohibited people a day are sold guns by dealers where the background check is not complete but the law allows them to continue the sale without one. This loophole, called the Charleston loophole, needs to be closed.
- States that have expanded background checks to apply to all gun sales have significantly reduced claw enforcement officers killed in the line of duty (53% reduction) and women shot and killed by intimate partners (47% reduction).
- 93% of Americans support background checks for all gun sales, including 92% of gun-owning households.

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Questions for Elected Officials on Closing the Loopholes in Background Checks

Do you support expanding Brady background checks to all gun sales? (Don't let them tell you that we already have them. The latest Harvard University study shows that 22% of gun sales occur without a background check.)

Do you support closing loopholes that continue to allow dangerous people to buy guns, including domestic abusers who are not covered under the federal definition of "dating partners" or misdemeanor hate crime offenders?

Will you commit to opposing deregulation of silencers until the loopholes in our background check system are closed, which would be used by organized crime to purchase silencers without background checks online and at gun shows from private sellers?

Will you commit right now to closing the "Charleston loophole," so no one can buy a gun in this country without completing a criminal background check, so a tragedy like the one at Mother Emanuel AME church never happens again?

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Support Federal Gun Violence Prevention Research, Analysis & Information Sharing

- Congress has prohibited federal researchers like the CDC & NIH from undertaking gun violence prevention research projects, collecting and sharing data. Many states are establishing their own GVP research centers to fill the gap, but more research in this area is needed if we want to solve this crisis.
- Firearms are in the top three leading causes of death among Americans between the ages of 10-34, and the number two killer of people 19 and under.
- Gun injuries and deaths are a public health epidemic in America. American gun homicide rates are 20 times higher than other nations in the developed world.
- 33,000 Americans die from gun violence each year and another 78,000 are injured and survive, often suffering lifelong debilitating physical and mental effects.
- 2/3 of U.S. gun deaths are suicides - 20 veterans a day commit suicide, 2/3 with guns. Firearms are the most common method of suicide for teens & adolescents aged 10-24.

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Questions for Elected Officials: Allow Federal Gun Violence Prevention Research

Why would Congress oppose scientific research if it's not as a special protection offered to the corporate gun lobby?

Every year, Congress continues to limit the CDC's ability to conduct resarch on gun violence. When will you put the protection of the American public ahead of the interests of the corporate gun industry?

Will you commit to supporting gun violence prevention research and data collection by Centers for Disease Control?

Can we count on you to speak out against any legislation that limits federal agencies from undertaking or funding gun violence prevention research?

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Oppose Removing Small Percentage of At-Risk Military Vets from National Instant Background Check System

- We lose 20 veterans a day to suicide and 66% of them use a gun to kill themselves. That's 7,000 vets a year.
- 85% of suicide attempts with a gun are fatal; only 5% are fatal by all other means.
- The US veteran suicide rate is 20 percent higher than civilians.
- The US House passed H.R.1181 on a party line vote. The vote was brought straight to the floor – without being reported to a committee, without any hearings, testimony, or discussion.
- H.R. 1181 directs the VA to stop submitting names of the small number of veterans who receive disability benefits AND are unable to handle their own finances into the background check system, indicating that they suffer from severe mental impairment.
- The bill has now been "hot-lined" in the Senate so it can come up to a vote anytime without debate in committee, as well.
- The bill also permanently removes 174,000 at-risk veterans already in the background check system including 20,000 vets with schizophrenia, 15,000 with severe PTSD, 11,000 with dementia and 5,000 with Alzheimer's.

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Questions for Elected Officials: "No Exceptions" on Background Checks

Do you think veterans with schizophrenia and dementia should be able to buy and have easy access to guns when they don't have proper access to mental health and other services?

Why would Congress vote to allow anyone, vets included, the ability to buy a gun if they can't hold a job or even manage their finances due to their disability?

How are you going to stop these at-risk veterans from shooting themselves or hurting others?

Will you commit right now to making sure everyone – no exceptions – must pass a background check to buy a gun?

20 veterans a day commit suicide, most with a gun. Why did Congress just vote to prevent vets in crisis from being included in the NICS background check system?

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AGREE

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DISAGREE

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