

Administration of Barack Obama, 2013

Statement on Senate Action on Gun Control Legislation

March 14, 2013

I thank the Senate for taking another step forward in our common effort to help reduce gun violence by advancing a bill that would reinstate and strengthen a ban on the sale of military-style assault weapons and set a 10-round limit for magazines. These weapons of war, when combined with high-capacity magazines, have one purpose: to inflict maximum damage as quickly as possible. They are designed for the battlefield, and they have no place on our streets, in our schools, or threatening our law enforcement officers.

The Senate has now advanced legislation addressing three of the most important elements of my proposal to help reduce the epidemic of gun violence in this country. Now the full Senate and the House need to vote on this bill, as well as the measures advanced in the past week that would impose serious penalties on anyone who buys a gun as part of a scheme to arm criminals; improve school safety; and help keep guns out of the hands of criminals, people with a severe mental illness, and others who shouldn't have them. Each of these proposals deserves a vote.

Categories: Statements by the President : Gun control legislation, Senate action.

Subjects: Education : School security, improvement efforts; Law enforcement and crime : Federal Assault Weapons Ban; Law enforcement and crime : Gun control; Law enforcement and crime : Illegal arms trade, reduction efforts.

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