

## WHY AMERICA NEEDS TO GET MILITARY-STYLE WEAPONS OFF OUR STREETS

### WHY IT MATTERS:

In the last year alone, shootings aimed at killing large numbers of people have wreaked havoc on public spaces across our nation. From a mall in Oregon, to a theater in Aurora, to an elementary school in Newtown, we have watched our communities confront the disaster that occurs when weapons designed to kill so many people get into the hands of a dangerous person. Each of the perpetrators in the recent major shootings have used assault weapons to commit their act.

Weapons of war like these don't belong in the hands of civilians. By getting them off our streets, we can protect our communities from those intent upon harming others on such a massive scale.



### THE DETAILS:

- Don't believe for a minute that this is about your grandfather's hunting rifle. Assault weapons are dangerous, military-style weapons that are built to do the most damage and kill the maximum number of people in the shortest amount of time.
- Assault weapons are distinguishable from other semi-automatic firearms based on the combat-style features that allow a shooter to control the weapon while rapidly spraying large amounts of fire. Assault weapons can be purchased on the commercial market in most states.
- These weapons of war allow criminals and the seriously mentally ill to inflict harm on a huge scale. Our police officers and our communities are all confronting the threat presented by dangerous people who are armed with legal, easily available military-style assault weapons.

**A FEDERAL BAN ON ASSAULT WEAPONS COULD PROTECT COMMUNITIES FROM THE THREAT OF A CATASTROPHIC ATTACK LIKE THOSE SEEN IN NEWTOWN AND AURORA BY KEEPING GUNS BUILT TO KILL LARGE NUMBERS OF PEOPLE OUT OF OUR NEIGHBORHOODS.**

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