



Office of the Mayor

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Statement by Mayor Rhodes-Conway in Support of Universal Background Checks Bill

Here in Madison, and nationwide, gun violence is resulting in far too many lives lost. The specter of gun violence threatens our quality of life, and jeopardizes the safety and well-being of the public and our dedicated police officers.

Just this year, the Shake the Lake incident could have resulted in a dangerous stampede, and random shots on State Street threaten the security of many.

We need to find ways to keep firearms out of the hands of those who should not possess them – individuals suffering from mental illness and those convicted of serious violent crimes, including domestic violence – are a common sense first step.

There are, frankly, too many handguns on our streets and common sense measures, like those being proposed today, are needed by Wisconsin communities large and small to keep people safe.

I applaud Governor Evers, Representative Sargent, Representative Stubbs and Senator Johnson for their leadership on this issue. I join 81 percent of Wisconsinites in supporting such a measure and I call on the entire state Legislature to pass this bill as soon as possible.