



The Honorable John Cornyn
United States Senate
517 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

November 16, 2017

Dear Senator Cornyn,

On behalf of victims, survivors and advocates across the nation, the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence (NCADV) extends a thank s you - to you - for introducing the Fix NICS Act. The Fix NICS Act is a demonstration of Congressional unity, bringing together not only legislators from both sides of the aisle but also taking meaningful action supported by a diverse cross-section of individuals and organizations. The name 'Fix NICS' is quite apt; this bill will make important changes to address a priority long held by both gun violence prevention advocates and gun rights advocates - fixing NICS.

The shooting in Sutherland Springs by a prohibited abuser may have been the last straw, but we have known NICS needed fixing for many years. Domestic violence misdemeanants and respondents to permanent domestic violence protective orders are among the people prohibited from possessing firearms, but states' and federal agencies' submission of these records to NICS have been woefully inadequate. A plurality of firearms that are sold to people who erroneously pass background checks and then must be retrieved by the ATF are sold to domestic abusers, as are a plurality of cases the ATF subsequently refers to the US Attorney's Office for prosecution.

We appreciate that the Fix NICS Act is designed to ensure prohibiting records are submitted to NICS in a timely fashion and contain the information the FBI needs to make a determination on a potential purchaser's eligibility. Abusers with guns are a danger to their victims, to their families, and to their communities; your bill recognizes this and takes an important step to keep firearms out of the hands of people who have been determined by the courts to be dangerous.

NCADV, victims, survivors, advocates, and others appreciate your leadership on this bill! Together, we can take a stand, save lives and change society to have zero tolerance for domestic violence.

Respectfully,

Ruth Glenn, Executive Director
The National Coalition Against Domestic Violence