



THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

May 24, 2024

Jill and I join the Uvalde community in honoring the lives of those who were tragically stolen from us in a mass shooting at Robb Elementary School 2 years ago today. On that horrific morning, the parents and loved ones of 19 precious children and 2 courageous educators lived their worst nightmare. To the families of the victims: I know that, even after years have passed, there are days it feels like you just got the news yesterday. While there are no words that will ease the pain you continue to feel, I pray you find comfort in reflecting on their memories and all that they meant.

After this unimaginable tragedy, Jill and I came to Uvalde to share our condolences with the victims' loved ones and express our commitment to preventing senseless acts of violence like this from happening again. When we met with the families, they had the same message we hear in the aftermath of all too many mass shootings: Do something. In the 2 years since, they have made their voices heard—and our country has listened.

Just months after the shooting, I signed into law the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act—the most significant gun safety law in almost 30 years. For the first time in three decades, with the help of so many from Uvalde, we overcame relentless opposition to commonsense gun legislation from the gun lobby, gun manufacturers, and politicians. Through this bill, my Administration is closing dangerous loopholes and implementing the most significant expansion of gun background checks in decades. Last year, I was also proud to launch the Office of Gun Violence Prevention to drive and coordinate an all-of-Government, nationwide effort to reduce gun violence in America. And I am continuing to call on Congress to ban assault weapons and high-capacity magazines.

In the last 2 years, the people of Uvalde have turned their pain into purpose to demand progress for our Nation. I know we have a long road ahead of us, but the courage, strength, and resilience you have shown in the face of such profound loss remind us that we can come together as a country and take commonsense actions to save lives and keep our communities safe.

As we mark this solemn day, may we pray for those we lost, their loved ones, and all those who were wounded. May God bless them all, and may He bless each and every one of you.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Joe Biden".