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State Sen. Heidi Campbell Denounces Lawmakers' Attempt to Block Gun Reform Session

NASHVILLE, TN - State Senator Heidi Campbell today condemned a letter sent by three Tennessee lawmakers asking Governor Bill Lee to cancel the special legislative session on gun reform set for August.

“After the bipartisan outcry that our entire nation witnessed from Tennessee citizens in the final weeks of our last session, it is appalling that state legislators are speaking out in opposition to our Governor’s call for a special session to address the epidemic of gun violence terrorizing our communities,” Campbell said. “The people we represent have called on us to pass common sense measures that have been proven to save lives while respecting the rights of lawful gun owners. There is no higher calling than protecting the lives of our children.”

Campbell, who is running for Mayor of Nashville in the August 2023 election, has made tackling gun violence a central issue of her campaign.

Last week, [she drafted 17 pieces of common-sense gun safety legislation](#), including:

1. Extreme Risk Protection Orders
2. Expanded background checks
3. Limiting magazine capacity to ten rounds or less
4. Banning assault weapons
5. Banning bump stocks
6. Enforcing of guns-in-trunks law
7. Repealing permitless carry
8. Passing MaKayla’s Law (would create two classes of felony offense of reckless endangerment when a person fails to lock, secure, or otherwise store or make unavailable a firearm if a child younger than age 13 obtains possession of the firearm and the discharge results in either bodily injury or death).
9. Third Party Dispossession Affidavit
10. Eliminate Third Party Dispossession
11. Banning Illegal Firearm Transfers (as a misdemeanor)
12. Violence Intervention Funding (would create a Tennessee Violence Intervention Program within the department of finance and administration's office of criminal justice programs)
13. Establishment of a Voluntary Do-Not Sell List
14. Requiring a 72-Hour Waiting Period from initiating a sale until the purchaser takes possession of a firearm
15. Implementing Permit-to-Purchase requirements for gun sales
16. Repealing the guns-in-trunks law

17. Eliminating conditional proceed sales (would eliminate the practice of authorizing a gun sale if a background check is not processed in a timely fashion)

“The strength of community and character we’ve seen from the Covenant community in the aftermath of that terrible day warrants action, and the Governor is calling on us to do our job!”

Most Tennesseans, including gun owners, support stronger gun laws.

Campbell was elected to represent Tennessee's Senate District 20 in 2020, and prior to that served as the Mayor of Oak Hill in Nashville.

For more information or to schedule an interview, contact Mary Ellen Peden at maryellen@voteheidicampbell.com or (615) 424-2796.