



CHRIS TAYLOR

STATE REPRESENTATIVE • 76th ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

October 4, 2017

Via Hand-Delivery

Representative John Spiros
Chair, Assembly Committee on
Criminal Justice and Public Safety
15 North

Chairmen Spiros,

I write to urgently request a public hearing on Assembly Bill 74 (AB 74), which reinstates the requirement that a federally licensed firearm dealer wait 48 hours after requesting the Department of Justice to perform a background check on the prospective purchaser to transfer a handgun. In light of recent tragedies, this waiting period needs to be restored.

This most recent tragedy is a reminder to all of us that gun violence pervades everyday life. From a mass shooting in Las Vegas, to a domestic violence dispute in Wisconsin, gun violence impacts Americans every day. According to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 93 Americans are killed by gun violence on an average day in our country. Further, on an average month 50 women are shot by their partners.

As the legislative history of the original waiting period makes clear, the 48 hour waiting period has an important purpose. As stated by then Governor Lucey, the waiting period was needed "to prevent crimes committed in a moment of passion or fit of rage that so often result in senseless tragedies among families and friends."

Those sentiments have not changed in the last 40 years and are still applicable today. Doing nothing to curb the devastation and death resulting from gun violence is not an option. If even one person's life can be spared by this bill, we must act. Therefore, I urgently request a public hearing for AB 74.

I'm more than happy to discuss this bill and my request with you further, should you have any questions or concerns. Please do not hesitate to contact me directly.

Sincerely,

Representative Chris Taylor
76th Assembly District