



Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America
Shannon Watts, Founder
Cell: 404-580-3500
media@momsdemandaction.org

OFFICIAL STATEMENT: MOMS DEMAND ACTION FOR GUN SENSE IN AMERICA'S REACTION TO THREATENED FILIBUSTER BY 13 SENATORS

(Indianapolis, IN) April 8, 2013 – We are shocked and disappointed by the announcement today that 12 Republican senators plan to join Sen. Rand Paul in an attempt to block a vote on common-sense gun legislation supported by a vast majority of Americans. By threatening a filibuster of legislation that hasn't even been finalized, these 13 senators are showing their disrespect for their constituents, for American children and families, and for the democratic process itself.

Polls show more than 90 percent of Americans support background checks, and the majority of Americans also support other gun reforms, including an assault weapons ban. However, these 13 politicians are blatantly choosing to ignore their constituents' demands in order to do the bidding of an out-of-touch and out-of-control gun lobby.

Lawmakers' callous lack of action to address gun violence has led to a crisis of epidemic proportions in America. In the less than four months since the Sandy Hook tragedy, hundreds of children have died due to gun violence. Each day these senators play this game, eight children will be killed by guns in the United States. How long will these senators talk while our children die?

The threat to filibuster is a cowardly and unpatriotic ploy to circumvent the legislative process. We will not allow these 13 men to stand in the way of what millions of Americans want: New and stronger gun laws. Like the last holdouts who filibustered against civil rights and women's suffrage, these senators will end up on the wrong side of history.

Since the Newtown massacre, the mothers of America have risen up to demand action on sensible gun laws. We will not stand by as these senators attempt to hijack democracy. We expect our elected officials to encourage debate and a full vote on this legislation. As their fellow Republican Senator John McCain asked yesterday, "What are [they] afraid of?"

The mothers of America are watching and, when it is our turn to vote, we will remember which members of Congress voted in the best interest of our children, and which voted for special interests.

###