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**THE WASHINGTON STATE CHAPTER OF MOMS DEMAND ACTION  
FOR GUN SENSE IN AMERICA TO DELIVER COOKIES TO LEGISLATORS  
Mothers Calling on Legislators to Support Initiative 594: Gun Background Checks**

(Olympia, WA) Jan. 15, 2014—Washington State members of Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America will convene at the Capitol on Friday, Jan. 17, to urge legislators to support background checks for private and online gun sales and gun shows.

The day will kick-off with a rally and press event at 9:30am on the North Capitol Steps in Olympia. Speakers will include Kate Beck, Washington State chapter leader of Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America, and Zoe Moore, who lost her daughter to gun violence, Rep. Tara Senn (D-41), and Chair of House Judiciary Committee Rep. Laurie Jinkins (D-27).

After the rally, volunteers will visit legislators to deliver bell-shaped cookies calling for “No More Silence.”

“We cannot stay silent. Our members will share their stories with over 50 legislators today,” said Kate Beck, Washington State chapter leader of Moms Demand Action. “We are asking them to make it harder for criminals, domestic abusers, and the dangerously mentally ill to purchase guns by requiring background checks for private and online sales, and at gun shows.”

Initiative 594 would extend the criminal and public safety background checks currently used by licensed firearms dealers to all firearm sales and transfers, including gun show and online sales, with specific exceptions. If the legislature does not act on the initiative, it will appear on the November 2014 ballot to be decided upon by the people of Washington.

“Our children’s safety is top of mind,” said member and volunteer of Moms Demand Action, Jocelyn Wood. “Common sense gun legislation is a big part of keeping our children and our communities safe.”

In states that require a background check for private handgun sales, 38 percent fewer women are shot to death by their intimate partners, and there are 17 percent fewer firearm aggravated assaults.

“We hope that the legislature will act in the best interest of Washington’s public health, but if not, we know there is widespread support across Washington for background checks and our moms will be there every step of the way,” said Beck.

Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America-Washington State Chapter is a member of the Washington Alliance for Gun Responsibility.

### **About Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America**

Much like Mothers Against Drunk Driving was created to change laws regarding drunk driving, Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America was created to build support for common-sense gun reforms. The nonpartisan grassroots movement of American mothers is demanding new and stronger solutions to lax gun laws and loopholes that jeopardize the safety of our children and families. In just one year, the organization has more than 130,000 members with a chapter in every state in the country. The group recently announced it is joining forces with [Mayors Against Illegal Guns](#), the largest gun violence prevention organization in the country. For more information or to get involved visit [www.momsdemandaction.org](http://www.momsdemandaction.org). Follow us on Facebook [www.facebook.com/MomsDemandAction](https://www.facebook.com/MomsDemandAction) or on Twitter [@MomsDemand](#)

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