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Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America, Washington State Chapter

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**MOMS DEMAND ACTION MEMBERS, DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SURVIVORS THANK
WASHINGTON SENATE FOR UNANIMOUS YES VOTE ON HB 1840**

**Moms and Survivors Support Bill to Help Keep Guns Out of Hands of Domestic
Abusers**

(OLYMPIA, WA) Fri., March 7, 2014 — Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America commends the Washington House and Senate for their unanimous votes on HB 1840.

"Moms and families across Washington are safer thanks to the unprecedented unanimous vote on HB 1840," said Jocelyn Wood, advocacy lead for Washington chapter of Moms Demand Action. "We are grateful to our courageous elected officials for doing the right thing."

HB 1840 is a bipartisan bill that will help save women's lives and protect families by keeping guns out of the hands of domestic abusers. The bill is backed by domestic abuse survivors, law enforcement, gun violence prevention advocates, and the National Rifle Association.

Rory Spence Graves, whose mother was shot by her former husband said, "I went to Olympia with Courtney Weaver, a fellow survivor of gun violence and domestic violence. We watched this bill pass with tears in our eyes. It has taken too many years to get this bill passed. But now, my mother's shooter can no longer own guns while she has a protection order, and neither can other domestic violence perpetrators. This new legislation will help protect so many women and families across our state."

Women experiencing domestic violence are five times more likely to be murdered if their abuser owns a firearm. Two-thirds of women who are murdered by their current or former intimate partners are killed with guns. Domestic violence offenders with firearms are also

responsible for 14 percent of police officer deaths in the line-of-duty, and have been linked to more than half of the mass shootings committed in the U.S. from 2009 to 2013.

HB 1840 protects ALL Washingtonians by keeping guns out of the hands of domestic abusers who have a protective order filed against them. The bill also directs law enforcement agencies to enact policies and protocols that address firearm removal, seizure, storage, and return of firearms.

"This bill will protect women, children, police officers and all Washingtonians, and is a valuable tool for law enforcement," says Kate Beck, chapter leader for the Washington chapter of Moms Demand Action. "Our Washington members worked hard to support the domestic violence community by providing testimony and talking to legislators to help pass this bill. This is a great step for our state."

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 140,000 members with a chapter in every state in the country. The group recently joined 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. Follow us on Facebook www.facebook.com/MomsDemandAction or on Twitter [@MomsDemand](#)

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