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# Congress of the United States

## House of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515-0922

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December 15, 2015

Hon. Andy Gardiner  
President of the Florida Senate  
404 South Monroe Street  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1100

Hon. Steve Crisafulli  
Speaker of the Florida House of Representatives  
402 South Monroe Street  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1300

Dear President Gardiner and Speaker Crisafulli,

We write to urge you to prevent H.B. 4001 and S.B. 68, *Licenses to Carry Concealed Weapons or Firearms*, from passing in the Florida House of Representatives and the Florida Senate. We join the State University System of Florida, campus police chiefs, several Florida sheriffs, student groups, faculty, and parents, in our belief that this change would only serve to increase gun violence in our campus communities.

College students are already known to disproportionately engage in high risk behaviors such as binge drinking and to struggle with mental health issues including thoughts of suicide. Increasing students' access to guns only increases the likelihood that volatile situations on campus will end in tragedy. Additionally, campus police have testified that changing the law to allow guns on campus would dangerously interfere with their response to an active shooter situation in that they will struggle to identify the actual perpetrator.

We agree that campus violence is a serious problem. Sadly, there have been at least 23 shootings on college campuses just in 2015. Let's work together to reduce this violence. For example, strengthening the background check system for gun purchases and increasing mental health services on campus would serve to increase college campus safety and security. Increasing the number of guns on college campuses is simply not the answer.

Please stand up for our students and their parents and reject this ill-conceived legislation.

Sincerely,



Lois Frankel  
Member of Congress



Corrine Brown  
Member of Congress

  
Alice L. Hastings  
Member of Congress

  
Debbie Wasserman Schultz  
Member of Congress

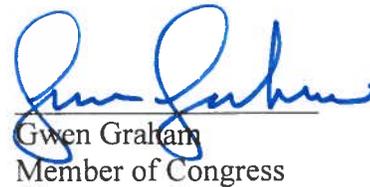
  
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