



KENNETH T. WELCH
CHAIRMAN

March 3, 2018

The Honorable Bill Nelson
United States Senate
716 Senate Hart Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Nelson:

During the annual joint meeting between the Pinellas County Board of County Commissioners (Board) and the Pinellas County Federal Delegation, it was requested that the Board offer recommendations to enhance public safety. Subsequently, the Board discussed this issue at length during its February 27, 2018 meeting, and would like to offer the following suggestions:

- Raise the age to 21 years of age for all firearm purchases.
- Ban on bump stocks.
- Require a universal background check on all firearm purchases, including purchases made at gun shows.
- Ban on assault-style weapons, to include semi-automatic rifles that have the capacity to accept a detachable high-capacity magazine, and are equipped with a pistol grip, including all AK, AR, and like models.
- Prohibit possession of firearms from individuals who are a threat to themselves or others as deemed necessary by a Judge.
- State and federal funding to provide for a minimum of one (1) School Resource Officer at every school, without budget reductions to other critical school programs or resources.
- State and federal funding to invest in school hardening, without budget reductions to other critical school programs or resources.

In addition to the suggestions above, the Board is strongly opposed to arming school teachers with firearms.

The Board of County Commissioners considers this matter a priority and urgent need. We look forward to your commitment to keep the residents of Pinellas safe.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kenneth T. Welch".

KENNETH T. WELCH, Chairman
Pinellas Board of County Commissioners

CC: Members of the Pinellas County Commission
Pinellas County Federal Legislative Delegation
Pinellas County State Legislative Delegation
Mark Woodard, County Administrator
Jewel White, County Attorney