

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Growing List of Mayors from Across Country Announce Youth Voter Registration Commitments for National Voter Registration Day with March For Our Lives Students**

*“Mayors For Our Lives” Initiative Will Reach Millions of Young People Nationally Including Los Angeles, Houston, New York, Kansas City, Atlanta, and Washington D.C. on September 25*

*David Hogg and Mayor Bill De Blasio Announce the Effort on MSNBC’s Morning Joe*

**PARKLAND, FL** – Today, a growing list of Mayors from across the country representing millions of Americans between the ages of 18 and 29 pledged to support a national, bipartisan youth voter registration initiative in high schools and college campuses with the March for Our Lives leading up to September 25, National Voter Registration Day. In conjunction with The U.S. Conference of Mayors, African American Mayors Association, and cities across the country, this coalition will work with local leadership to ensure the right to vote and be heard is available to all students in all communities.

"Voting is the most important way we can hold our politicians accountable," **said March For Our Lives Co-Founder, David Hogg**. "Tuesday's historic Florida Primary turnout shows that students across the country are demanding change and taking action. And we're not surprised. During our time traveling the country, we have been able to find common ground and agreement wherever we have gone, regardless of ideology. We are grateful for the participation of The United States Conference of Mayors, African American Mayors Association and cities across the nation who are pledging to help millions of young people engage in our democracy, understand the issues, and get to the ballot box."

While in Los Angeles last month, March For Our Lives students joined Mayor Eric Garcetti, Mark Kelly, and the city's Student Advisory Council on Gun Violence in Schools & Communities to announce a city-wide commitment to National Voter Registration Day on September 25.

"There is no greater service to our democracy than inspiring a new generation of Americans to make their voices heard on Election Day," **said Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti**. "This incredible group of young people has already shown us the power of standing together against gun violence — now, it's our responsibility as mayors to bring this movement into our cities, and register more young men and women across America to vote."

In this new effort, called "Mayors For Our Lives," mayors will pledge to make registration forms readily available to all eligible students, maintain goals for registration, participate in get out the vote campaigns, collaborate with other mayors, and empower their communities to have their youth voices be heard during elections. Participating cities across the country will work to reach millions of young people at the start of the school year ahead of midterm elections. The Mayors that have already agreed to the commitment include:

- **Tucson, Arizona, Mayor Jonathan Rothschild**
- **Little Rock, Arkansas, Mayor Mark Stodola**

- **Albany, California, Mayor Peggy McQuaid**
- **Carson, California, Mayor Albert Robles**
- **Chula Vista, California, Mayor Casillas Salas**
- **Emeryville, California, Mayor John Bauters**
- **Livermore, California, Mayor John Marchand**
- **Los Angeles, California, Mayor Eric Garcetti**
- **Long Beach, California, Mayor Robert Garcia**
- **Newark, California, Mayor Alan L. Nagy**
- **Sacramento, California, Mayor Darrell Steinburg**
- **San Leandro, California, Mayor Pauline Russo Cutter**
- **Santa Cruz, California, Mayor David Terrazas**
- **Stockton, California, Mayor Michael Tubbs**
- **West Hollywood, California, Mayor John Duran**
- **Bridgeport, Connecticut, Mayor Joe Ganim**
- **New Haven, Connecticut, Mayor Toni N. Harp**
- **Washington, District of Columbia, Mayor Muriel Bowser**
- **Miami Gardens, Florida, Mayor Oliver Gilbert III**
- **North Miami, Florida, Mayor Andre Pierre**
- **Parkland, Florida, Mayor Christine Hunschofsky**
- **Pennbrook Pines, Florida, Mayor Frank C. Ortis**
- **Atlanta, Georgia, Mayor Keisha Bottoms**
- **East Point, Georgia, Mayor Deana Holiday Ingraham**
- **Gay, Indiana, Mayor Karen Freeman Wilson**
- **Baton Rouge, Louisiana, Mayor Sharon Weston Broome**

- **College Park, Maryland, Mayor Patrick Wojahn**
- **St. Paul, Minnesota, Mayor Melvin Carter**
- **Kansas City, Missouri, Mayor Sly James**
- **Newark, New Jersey, Mayor Ras Baraka**
- **Plainfield, New Jersey, Mayor Adrian Mapp**
- **Albany, New York, Mayor Kathy Sheehan**
- **Buffalo, New York, Mayor Byron Brown**
- **New York City, New York, Mayor Bill de Blasio**
- **Carrboro, North Carolina, Mayor Lydia Lavelle**
- **Lima, Ohio, Mayor David Berger**
- **Youngstown, Ohio, Mayor Jameal Tito Brown**
- **Portland, Oregon, Mayor Ted Wheeler**
- **Gresham, Oregon, Mayor Shane Bemis**
- **Braddock, Pennsylvania, Mayor John Fetterman**
- **Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, Mayor Jim Kenney**
- **Columbia, South Carolina, Mayor Stephen Benjamin**
- **Holly Hill, South Carolina, Mayor William Johnson**
- **Clarksville, Tennessee, Mayor Kim McMillan**
- **Memphis, Tennessee, Mayor Jim Strickland**
- **College Station, Texas, Mayor Dr. Karl P. Mooney**
- **DeSoto, Texas, Mayor Curtistene S. McCowan**
- **Houston, Texas, Mayor Sylvester Turner**
- **Rowlett, Texas, Mayor Tammy Dana-Bashian**
- **Salt Lake City, Utah, Mayor Jackie Biskupski**

- **Alexandria, Virginia, Mayor Allison Silberberg**
- **Richmond, Virginia, Mayor Levar M. Stoney**
- **Tacoma, Washington, Mayor Victoria Woodards**
- **Madison, Wisconsin, Mayor Paul R. Soglin**
- **Wisconsin Rapids, Mayor Zachary J. Vruwink**

"Everyone deserves a voice, especially our students," **said Mayor Bill de Blasio of New York, who signed the pledge.** "Voting gives anyone, young or old, the chance to make a difference. New York is proud to stand together with March For Our Lives and other cities around the country in this bipartisan effort to register voters. Efforts like these should give everyone hope that we can solve our toughest problems."

"As mayors, we live among the people, as members of our own communities. Mayors are not just elected officials, but we are friends and family members to those we serve. And when the young people in our cities speak, we listen."**said U.S. Conference of Mayors President Columbia (SC) Mayor Steve Benjamin.** "That's why we are very proud to support Mayors For Our Lives, so that we can ensure that our young people have a voice and a real seat at the table when it comes to addressing our nation's most critical challenges."

"Earlier this year, we saw students from Washington, DC and communities across the country unite for common-sense gun reform," **said Mayor Muriel Bowser of Washington, D.C. and African American Mayors Association Trustee.** "The students of Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School bravely turned tragedy into action and continue to motivate and inspire Americans of all ages and backgrounds. Now, we are proud to work with student advocates to build upon and expand these efforts through Mayors for Our Lives. Together, we will register young people to vote, engage voters, and send a message to Congress that they can either do more to protect Americans from senseless gun violence or find a new

job.”

"I applaud and admire this incredible effort to help young people in cities across the U.S. register to vote," **said Gresham Mayor Shane Bemis, who serves as the U.S. Conference of Mayors Youth Involvement Task Force Chair.** "This is an important opportunity for mayors everywhere to involve youth in the American democratic process, and to help them have a say in the elections and policies that directly affect them.

The Mayors For Our Lives initiative is a response to the energy witnessed while on The March For Our Lives: Road to Change Bus Tour. The Road to Change Bus Tour spanned 100+ visits in 24 states across the country in over 60 days. Throughout the tour, the students connected with many elected officials and constituents of all backgrounds and discussed a shared vision for the future, a more engaged younger generation. Now the students and The United States Conference of Mayors are looking to channel their energy and voice into a national youth push to the polls.

Since March 2018, the students have been calling for common-sense reforms that will save the lives of more than 3,000 young people each year, including: implementing universal, comprehensive background checks; creating a searchable database for gun owners; funding the Centers for Disease Control to research gun violence so that reform policies are backed up by data; and banning high-capacity magazines and semi-automatic assault rifles.

Thus far, millions have joined their movement, and the mayors and students are ensuring they have their voices heard in the ballot box.

For more information on Mayors For Our Lives visit: [www.marchforourlives.com](http://www.marchforourlives.com)

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