



# KATRINA FOLEY

ORANGE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
FIFTH DISTRICT

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August 28, 2023

The Honorable Aisha Wahab  
California State Senate  
1021 O Street, Suite 7330  
Sacramento, CA 95814

The Honorable Reggie Jones-Sawyer  
California State Assembly  
P.O. Box 94849  
Sacramento, CA 94249

## **RE: Senate Joint Resolution (SJR) 7: Right to Safety Resolution**

Dear Senator Wahab and Assemblymember Jones-Sawyer,

On behalf of the Orange County residents I represent, I write to express my strong support for and endorsement of SJR 7, the Right to Safety Resolution. As an Orange County Supervisor committed to promoting public safety and the well-being of our communities, I firmly believe that gun safety laws save lives and create a safer environment for all.

Orange County is no stranger to gun violence. According to a 2022 University of California - Irvine review of shootings in Orange County over the past 11 years, about once every six weeks a wife or girlfriend is killed by her current or former intimate partner, such as her husband or boyfriend. Additionally, according to Everytown, intimate partner violence leads to nearly half of all mass shootings in this country.

Unfortunately, the most recent tragedy at Cook's Corner is the ninth mass shooting in Orange County history, with 44% of those shootings involving intimate partner violence. The impact of this violence reverberates through families, schools, workplaces, and neighborhoods, leaving a trail of tragedy in their wake. It is our collective responsibility to address this issue with urgency and determination.

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The frequency and severity of gun-related deaths are deeply troubling. In 2021, approximately 49,000 Americans died because of gun violence — and gun violence is now the leading cause of death for children in our country.

Orange County residents agree, we can protect the Second Amendment while simultaneously allowing elected officials to enact modern gun safety laws that are appropriate for our communities. The following gun safety measures outlined in the proposed resolution accomplish this goal:

- Raising the federal minimum age to purchase a firearm to 21
- Requiring universal background checks
- Instituting a reasonable waiting period before delivery of a firearm
- Barring civilian possession of assault weapons

We need change now. I look forward to a day where unnecessary gun deaths are relegated to the history books, and a future where lives can be saved as a result of the adoption of your resolution. Passing SJR 77 is the first step to enshrining the Right to Safety in our Constitution.

We appreciate your dedication and commitment to advancing policies that prioritize the safety and well-being of individuals, children, and families. Thank you for your leadership.

Respectfully submitted,



Katrina Foley  
Orange County Supervisor – District 5