



Title: Formation of a National Bureau for Firearm Injury Prevention
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- 1 **WHEREAS**, family physicians are on the front lines of health crises and can be encouraged to address firearm injury
 2 and death with the same tools used successfully to confront other public health concerns for decadesⁱⁱⁱ, and
- 3 **WHEREAS**, the National Highway Safety Bureau (NHSB) successfully addressed the problem of motor vehicle death
 4 using a systemic public health approachⁱⁱⁱ, and coordinated its activities to complement each other synergistically to
 5 reduce injuries resulting in reducing motor vehicle death rate by two-thirds^{iv}, and
- 6 **WHEREAS**, deaths from firearm injuries have increased by over 20% over the past 20 years^v: firearm injury and
 7 death are public health crises, and would likely be reduced by public health methods for reduction that have been
 8 proven effective^{vi}, and
- 9 **WHEREAS**, health professionals have already actively participated in efforts to reduce firearm injury^{vii} and a “call
 10 to action” from numerous other health organizations and the American Bar Association advocate for measures to
 11 reduce the negative public health consequences of firearms⁴, and
- 12 **WHEREAS**, there are comprehensive, multidimensional strategies designed to reduce firearm injury and death⁶⁷, that
 13 can be achieved with the coordinated modalities used by NHSB to reduce motor vehicle deaths, and the synergistic
 14 coordination of multiple modalities is best accomplished through a single entity such as the NHSB⁷. and
- 15 **WHEREAS**, to be maximally effective at decreasing firearm injury and deaths in the United States, a National Bureau
 16 for Firearm Injury Prevention must be created, run by experts in public health, medicine, engineering,
 17 communications, and law enforcement working together in a transparent and nonpartisan organization charged with¹
 18 setting the nation’s firearm injury research agenda and developing, testing, and implementing firearm safety
 19 technologies²; overseeing campaigns to encourage behaviors likely to reduce firearm injuries³; setting legislative
 20 priorities for saving lives due to firearm injury⁴; directing priorities for enforcing firearm laws in concert with the Bureau
 21 of Alcohol, Tobacco Firearms and Explosives and state law enforcement agencies; creation of a National Bureau for
 22 Firearm Injury Prevention is a cornerstone of Doctors For America’s policy on firearm injury prevention and is also
 23 being advocated for by multiple professional health groups and grassroots organizations dedicated to firearm injury
 24 prevention, now, therefore, be it
- 25 **RESOLVED**, that Michigan Academy of Family Physicians support the creation of a National Bureau for Firearm
 26 Injury Prevention to reduce firearm injury and death based on proven public health research and practices; and be it
 27 further
- 28 **RESOLVED**, that Michigan Academy of Family Physicians shall bring a resolution to the 2023 American Academy of
 29 Family Physicians Congress of Delegates meeting, proposing that AAFP support the creation of a National Bureau

30 for Firearm Injury Prevention to reduce firearm injury and death based on proven public health research and
31 practices.

ⁱ Bauchner H, Rivara FP, Bonow RO et al. Death by Gun Violence—A Public Health Crisis . JAMA Psychiatry. 2017;74(12):1195-1196. doi:10.1001/jamapsychiatry.2017.3616

ⁱⁱ McLean RM, Harris P, Cullen, J, Maier RV et al. Firearm-Related Injury and Death in the United States: A Call to Action From the Nation's Leading Physician and Public Health Professional Organizations Ann Intern Med. 2019; 171:573-579

ⁱⁱⁱ National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA). Seat Belts. <https://www.nhtsa.gov/risky-driving/seat-belts>

^{iv} Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Achievements in Public Health, 1900-1999 Motor-Vehicle Safety: A 20th Century Public Health Achievement. MMWR May 14, 1999 / 48(18);369-374.

^v CDC National Center for Health Statistics. <https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/fastats/injury.htm>

^{vi} Hemenway, David. "A public health approach to firearms policy" in Mechanic, David; Rogut, Lynn B; Colby, David C; Knickman, James R. eds. Policy Challenges in Modern Health Care. New Brunswick, NJ: Rutgers University Press, 2005. pp. 85-98

^{vii} Weinberger SE, Hoyt DB, Lawrence HC 3rd, Levin S, Henley DE, Alden ER, Wilkerson D, Benjamin GC, Hubbard WC. Ann Intern Med. Firearm-related injury and death in the United States: a call to action from 8 health professional organizations and the American Bar Association. 2015 Apr 7;16

^{viii} Hemenway, David; Miller, Matthew. Public health approach to the prevention of gun violence. New England Journal of Medicine. 2013; 368:2033-35.

^{ix} Bailey C. More Americans killed by guns since 1968 than in all U.S. wars-combined. NBC News.

<https://www.nbcnews.com/storyline/las-vegas-shooting/more-americans-killed-guns-1968-all-u-s-wars-combined-n807156>. October 4, 2017. Accessed October 5, 2017.