



## Issue Essentials

Sept. 29, 2018

### Webber Opposes Sensible Gun Safeguards

*After the Sandy Hook school slaughter, Jay Webber opposed new sensible gun safeguards. Instead, he insisted: “We need the laws we have enforced. When a sick, twisted person gets his hands on weapons of death and destruction, obviously bad things are going to happen.” So, how’s that working out?*

- Since the Sandy Hook slaughter nearly six years ago, **another 1,856 mass shootings have left nearly 10,000 killed and wounded** through Sept. 26.
- Last February, following the Parkland school slaughter, the best Webber could offer the victims, their families and classmates was **“our family’s prayers.”**
- The NRA appreciates Webber’s efforts, giving him a **93% rating**. So does the New Jersey Association of Rifle & Pistol Clubs, which **grades him an A**.
- As a state Assemblyman and a gun rights supporter, **Webber earned those grades by voting against multiple gun safety bills**, including:
  - mandating universal background checks,
  - requiring anyone to show a justifiable need to carry a handgun in public,
  - implementing handgun purchase limits in a 30-day period,
  - banning the sale of the powerful .50 caliber rifle,
  - capping gun magazines at 10 rounds, and
  - prohibiting sale of realistic toy guns.
- Webber refused to support reinstating the state’s assault rifles ban after the Sandy Hook School shooting. His answer: *“I think we just mourn, regroup, and when proposals come down the pike we’ll talk about them. More laws are usually not the solution here.”*
- After the Parkland school shooting, **Webber abstained on a bill to allow removal of guns from individuals deemed to be a danger to themselves or others**.
- His ultimate answer to gun violence is looser gun laws: *“Our Second Amendment freedoms are the bedrock of our public safety in this country ... the state doesn’t have primary responsibility for keeping us safe ... We have to be responsible for our own safety first and foremost.”*
- Why is Webber wrong on more guns as the answer? **Studies have linked stricter gun laws to fewer gun deaths**. But the U.S. has the developed world’s **weakest gun laws**.
- *“America is a big outlier among developed countries when it comes to gun deaths — in large part because it has so many guns, making it easy to carry out an act of violence,”* reports **Vox**.
- Isn’t it time to make it harder, to re-quote Webber from **above**, for *“a twisted person to get his hands on weapons of death and destruction”*? Otherwise, as he agrees, *“obviously bad things are going to happen.”*

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