



Massachusetts  
School Nurse Organization, Inc.

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May 25 2022

The Honorable Charles E. Schumer  
The Honorable Mitch McConnell  
The Honorable Richard J. Durbin  
The Honorable Chuck Grassley  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Re: Nomination of Steven Dettelbach Esq. to be Director of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives.

Dear Majority Leader Schumer, Leader McConnell, Chairman Durbin, and Ranking Member Grassley:

As the professional organization representing school nurses in Massachusetts, we write to support the nomination of Steven Dettelbach as the Director of Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives (ATF). A major mission of the Massachusetts School Nurse Organization (MSNO) is to promote quality health services in schools across the Commonwealth and the accidental and intentional death of students by firearms is completely antithetical to our mission. We are appalled and grieving the death of students, teacher and family member just yesterday in a school in Uvalde, Texas.

It is imperative that effective leadership be secured for the Federal agency charged to enforce laws that protect our children, their families, and school staff. In 2020, firearms became the leading cause of injury-related death in the U.S (Goldstick, 2022, *Current Causes of Death in Children and Adolescents in the United States*, NEJM). With pediatric injuries and deaths due to alcohol and tobacco (vaping), and firearms eclipsing those from other mechanisms, it is concerning that ATF has had only one director confirmed by the U.S. Senate since 2006 and that it is counterproductive to have a vacancy in the directors' position of the ATF.

As a federal prosecutor at Main Justice in the Civil Rights Division and in United States Attorneys' Offices for nearly 20 years, a counsel in the United States Senate Judiciary Committee and as a nominee for Ohio Attorney General in 2018, Mr. Steven Dettelbach is well qualified to understand the consequences that illegal acts may have upon children. We believe that he has the ability to lead the organization charged with upholding the laws that are designed to mitigate injuries related to alcohol, tobacco and firearms.

Thank you for the opportunity to share our perspective in support of this important nomination.  
We urge you to swiftly confirm Steve Dettelbach to be the next Director of ATF.

Sincerely yours,

**Doreen Crowe, MEd, BSN, RN**

Doreen Crowe, MEd, BSN, RN  
President, MSNO

**Jenny M. Gormley**

Jenny Gormley, DNP, MSN, BA, RN, NCSN  
Immediate Past President, MSNO

**Cathryn E. Hampson, MSN, RN, NCSN**

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**Carilyn A. Rains, M.Ed, BSN, RN**

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MSNO Director to the National Association of School Nurses

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