



1-31-1979

Dianne Feinstein to Jimmy Carter, 31 January 1979

Dianne Feinstein

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Recommended Citation

Feinstein, Dianne, "Dianne Feinstein to Jimmy Carter, 31 January 1979" (1979). *Mayor Moscone*. 32.
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January 31, 1979

The President
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20024

Dear Mr. President:

I am taking the liberty of sending you a copy of a resolution I have introduced before the Board of Supervisors of San Francisco County calling for hand gun control.

I am well aware that you support such legislation and I am also aware that the latest Harris Poll shows that nearly 80% of the people of the United States also support such legislation.

My city has suffered, in recent months, a series of tragedies involving the use of hand guns. I am well aware that this legislation would not have ruled out the assassinations of Mayor George Moscone and Supervisor Harvey Milk, but it might have had an impact on the series of senseless murders that we have suffered recently in San Francisco. It also might have made it more difficult to ship guns to Guyana. But I know I do not have to persuade you of the justice and rationality of my arguments.

In the 1976 Presidential campaign you advocated significantly stronger gun control laws. It is my sincere hope that you will give legislation, such as that introduced by Congressman Abner Mikva of Illinois, high priority during this session of Congress. I think it is legislation whose time has come.

Warmest regards.

Sincerely,

Dianne Feinstein
Mayor

cc: Congressman Mikva
John Gunther, Executive Director,
U.S. Conference of Mayors