

CBS Mornings

06/03/22

7:00:44 a.m. [TEASE]

15 seconds

[ON-SCREEN HEADLINE: Biden Urges Change]

PRESIDENT JOE BIDEN: The Second Amendment, like all other rights, is not absolute. Guns are the number-one killer of children in the United States of America.

GAYLE KING: President Biden addresses the nation, urging Congress to finally tackle the issue of gun control.

(...)

7:03:54 a.m. [TEASE]

3 minutes and 11 seconds

NATE BURLESON: But we begin with an urgent plea on gun control from President Biden. In a rare primetime address from the White House, using candles as a backdrop, the President urged Congress to act, to finally reform gun laws after a series of mass shootings. In Buffalo, Uvalde, Tulsa, and dozens of communities, the imagery of crisis, violence, and grief has become all too familiar in American life. Nancy Cordes joins us from the White House. Nancy, good morning.

[ON-SCREEN HEADLINE: The President's Plea for Gun Reform; In Primetime Address, President Calls for Big Changes to Gun Laws]

NANCY CORDES: Good morning, Nate. This may have been the most emphatic speech this President has delivered when it comes to guns. It's an issue he's been reluctant to dwell on until now because the chances of passing anything are just so slim. But that was before 19 third and fourth graders were gunned down in Texas using the kind of weapon that used to be banned.

BIDEN: Let us finally do something.

CORDES: After a month of mass shootings in Uvalde, Buffalo, Tulsa, and more, President Biden pleaded with Republicans to support new gun-control laws.

BIDEN: Too many other everyday places that have become killing fields, battlefields here in America.

CORDES: His ambitious wish list includes a ban on high-capacity magazines, universal background checks, new safe storage laws, and red flag laws, and a return to the assault weapons ban that he helped to pass in 1994.

BIDEN: And if we can't ban assault weapons, then we should raise the age to purchase them

from 18 to 21.

CORDES: He pointed to studies that show mass shooting deaths tripled after Congress let the assault weapons ban lapse in 2004.

BIDEN: The Second Amendment, like all other rights, is not absolute. This isn't about taking anyone's rights. It's about protecting children.

CORDES: But in the House, the battle lines haven't changed.

CONGRESSWOMAN MADELEINE DEAN (D-PA): This is on our watch. Where is the outrage?

CONGRESSMAN LOUIE GOHMERT (R-TX): How dare you — you think we don't have hearts?

CORDES: House Democrats and Republicans debated a major package of gun laws Thursday for nearly ten hours.

CONGRESSWOMAN LUCY MCBATH (D-GA): We are paying for this deadly culture with the lives of the American people.

CONGRESSMAN JIM JORDAN (R-OH): This bill would not stop the terrible events. It wouldn't harden schools, but it will sure take away the rights of the American people who follow the law.

CORDES: In the Senate, a bipartisan group says it's making progress on measures to address red flag laws, school safety, and mental illness.

SENATOR CHRIS MURPHY (D-CT): Every day that goes by, we get closer to an agreement, not further away.

CORDES: But that agreement, if it comes together, will not include some of these major gun safety measures that the President is calling for, like raising the purchasing age for assault weapons from 18 to 21. Some states, however, are moving ahead on their own. Just yesterday, New York state's legislature passed a bill that would do just that, and it now heads to the governor's desk. Tony?

TONY DOKOUPIL: As with so much else in this country, it heads to the states and then maybe the courts. Nancy, thank you very much. We appreciate it.

(...)

8:01:08 a.m.
21 seconds

[ON-SCREEN HEADLINE: Biden Urges Gun Reform]

BIDEN: Too many other everyday places that have become killing fields, battlefields here in America.

KING: President Biden urgently calls for gun control, asking how many more carnage are we willing to accept?

CORDES: This may have been the most emphatic speech this President has delivered when it comes to guns.