

Hello. My name is Melissa Willey and my daughter was Jaelynn, a 10th grader at Great Mills High School in St. Mary's County located in rural Southern Maryland. We are a quaint community lined by the Chesapeake Bay and tobacco barns, never the place you would expect to be gunned down.

I am here to tell you that it is essential that we pass JAELYNNS LAW to prevent my personal tragedy from happening again and to protect your children and our communities.

Let me tell you about my beautiful daughter. Jaelynn was a good student and member of the honor roll. She swam for both the high school swim team and Great Mills Aquatic Club. Jaelynn had just set a

club record in the 100 fly. She was a talented swimmer and earned her lifeguard license in 2017. Jaelynn always had an affinity for the water and enjoyed vacationing with her family at CT beaches. She liked taking walks and was a delicious baker especially her chocolate chip cookies. Jaelynn loved her siblings above all.

On March 20, 2018 Jaelynn walked out of my front door and into the halls of Great Mills High School. At the time of her murder all she wanted to do was see her 13 month old brother walk. She was excited to attend prom with a friend from swim team. She had gone dress shopping the weekend before. She didn't get to see either of those milestones and now has a little sister that she will never cuddle,

chase or enjoy. Jaelynn was a vibrant, beautiful and sweet young lady. Her shoulders shook when she laughed. All of that has been taken away are the hands of a gunman.

The shooter, just 17 years of age, was granted access to a gun. We are here today to prevent another child from having access to a firearm. To help try to prevent another family from going through the horrific tragedy we wake to each morning.

I am asking you to pass this bill in memory of jaelynn rose Willey who died March 22, 2018 at the hands of a 17 year old shooter, while walking to class in her high school. This should have never happened to Jaelynn, our family or our community and should never happen again.

Thank you for your time.