Obama responds to gun control petition

Hi everybody ! We started « we the people » so that you could directly petition your government on the matters you care about the most,so you could make your voice heardin the days since the heartbreaking tragedy in Newtown Connecticut. Hundreds of thousands of you from all 50 states have signed petitions asking us to take serious stepsto address the epidemic of gun violence in this country .So I just want to take aminute today to respond and let you knowwe hear you, now like the majority of Americans I believe that the SecondAmendment guarantees an individual right to bear arms.We've got a strong tradition of gun ownership that's been handed downfrom generation to generation and the fact is,most gun owners in America are responsible.They buy their guns legallyand they use them safely and it's encouraging that many gun ownershave stepped up this week to say there are steps we can take to prevent moretragedies like the one in Newtown ,steps that both protect our rightsand protect our kids.Here's what I think we should do :this week I called on Congress to take up and passcommon-sense legislation that has the support of a majority of the americanpeople including banning the sale of military-style assault weaponsand high-capacity ammunition clips and making sure criminals can't takeadvantage of legal loopholesto get their hands on a gun .I also tasked the Vice Presidentwith leading an effort to come up with a comprehensive set of serious proposalsto keep our children safe including strengthening school safetyimproving mental health care and addressing a culture that too oftenglorifies guns and violence