



The Senate of The State of Texas

DAN PATRICK
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

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May 29, 2018

Gabe Newell, President
Valve Software Corporation
10900 NE 4th St. Suite 500
Bellevue, WA 34121

VIA: Email and US Postal Service

RE: Video Game "Active Shooter"

Dear Mr. Newell:

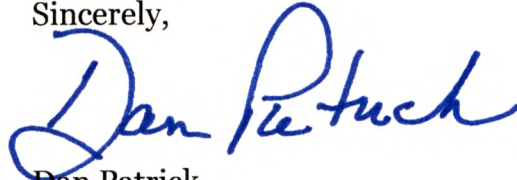
This weekend I became aware that in a few days you are planning to release a violent video game entitled "Active Shooter," which simulates a school shooting. The game preview says that players can choose to play either as a law enforcement officer or the school shooter. You are undoubtedly aware that on May 18, eight students and 2 teachers were shot and killed at Santa Fe High School in Texas. Last week there was a school shooting in Indiana. Given these two recent school shootings and others, including Florida, over the past several years, I am shocked that you would even consider a game that simulates school shootings. Your reported proposal, to format the game so players can only choose to be law enforcement officers, does not solve the problem.

I saw the recently released statement asking the public: "Please do not take any of this seriously." We are still burying those who were lost in Santa Fe and I can assure you that we do take this horrible game idea very seriously. As the Lt Governor of Texas, I am personally asking you to stop the release of this game and never bring it to the market. It is painful and offensive to the families of the victims of school shootings and to parents and students everywhere. As you know, many fear violent video games desensitize players to violence and could influence a student somewhere to act out the violence portrayed in the game in real life.

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I am appealing to you on behalf of the school shooting victims and students and families across Texas and the nation. Outside of your personal financial gain, no good can come from this game. I am counting on you to do the right thing.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Dan Patrick". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Dan Patrick

Lt. Governor of Texas