



MAJOR CITIES CHIEFS ASSOCIATION

June 12, 2009

The Honorable Patty Murray
U.S. Senate
173 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Murray:

On behalf of the Major Cities Chiefs, representing the 56 largest jurisdictions across the Nation, I am writing to support the HERO Act. We applaud your initiative to help local law enforcement recover costs associated with protecting large-scale special events.

We especially appreciate provisions in the bill that provide grants for the overtime salary and benefits of law enforcement officers assigned to these events. In but one example, law enforcement experienced an incredible strain on resources during President Obama's Inaugural as agencies across the country detailed officers to the Nation's Capital augmenting the Metropolitan Police Department, U.S. Secret Service and other agencies providing security.

States and local communities face enormous and unbudgeted costs when these types of national and international events occur in a community. The logistics require months of planning for the event and ultimately they result in providing first responders from many jurisdictions to maintain order and safety during the event. Your bill will go a long way to defray the costs associated with these major National events.

We thank you for all that you do to support American law enforcement and we look forward to working with you to ensure that this legislation becomes law.

All the best,

William J. Bratton
Chief of Police, Los Angeles, California
President, Major Cities Chiefs' Association

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Chicago, Illinois
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