



## MAJOR CITIES CHIEFS ASSOCIATION

Albuquerque, New Mexico  
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Atlanta, Georgia  
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Baltimore Co., Maryland  
Boston, Massachusetts  
Buffalo, New York  
Calgary, Alberta  
Charlotte-Mecklenburg, North Carolina  
Chicago, Illinois  
Cincinnati, Ohio  
Cleveland, Ohio  
Columbus, Ohio  
Dallas, Texas  
Denver, Colorado  
Detroit, Michigan  
Edmonton, Alberta  
El Paso, Texas  
Fairfax Co., Virginia  
Fort Worth, Texas  
Fresno, California  
Honolulu, Hawaii  
Houston, Texas  
Indianapolis, Indiana  
Jacksonville, Florida  
Kansas City, Missouri  
Las Vegas, Nevada  
Long Beach, California  
Los Angeles, California  
Los Angeles Co., California  
Louisville, Kentucky  
Memphis, Tennessee  
Mesa, Arizona  
Miami-Dade, Florida  
Milwaukee, Wisconsin  
Minneapolis, Minnesota  
Montgomery Co., Maryland  
Montreal, Quebec  
Nashville, Tennessee  
Nassau Co., New York  
New Orleans, Louisiana  
New York City, New York  
Newark, New Jersey  
Oakland, California  
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma  
Ottawa, Ontario  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania  
Phoenix, Arizona  
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania  
Portland, Oregon  
Prince George's Co., Maryland  
Raleigh, North Carolina  
Sacramento, California  
Salt Lake City, Utah  
San Antonio, Texas  
San Diego, California  
San Francisco, California  
San Jose, California  
Seattle, Washington  
St. Louis, Missouri  
Suffolk Co., New York  
Toronto, Ontario  
Tucson, Arizona  
Tulsa, Oklahoma  
Vancouver, British Columbia  
Virginia Beach, Virginia  
Washington, DC  
Winnipeg, Manitoba

July 24, 2012

The Honorable Joseph Lieberman  
Chairman  
706 Hart Office Building  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Susan Collins  
Ranking Member  
413 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Lieberman and Ranking Member Collins:

On behalf of the Major Cities Chiefs, I am writing to express our explicit opposition to Senator Paul's proposed amendment to S.2345 regarding the carrying of concealed handguns by permit in the District of Columbia. As we are responsible for public safety in the largest jurisdictions in the United States, we recognize that this amendment would be an enormous mistake.

This is a severely flawed amendment that would undermine efforts by law enforcement agencies across the Nation and thwart measures already enacted by the states. Please know that we stand with the more than 400 Mayors who have objected to this ill-conceived and ill-advised proposal.

Not only is this an oversimplification of carefully reasoned standards and licensing provisions, the proposed measure would arbitrarily overturn laws which have been tailored to the needs of regions and local communities. Passage of this amendment would be an affront to Federalism as it would force states, counties, localities, and cities to accept permits from other jurisdictions - whether or not the permits comply with the laws of that state.

Forcing the District of Columbia to allow issuance of permits for the carrying of concealed weapons sets a dangerous precedent. We are confident that members of Congress will not act with irresponsible disregard for the many reasonable and prudent laws already in place across the Nation, and will respect the authority of the District of Columbia, States, counties, and cities to adopt their own regulations.

Furthermore, I have personally testified against this measure in the past and would be pleased to testify in your committee on this matter. We call upon you to reject this amendment.

Sincerely,

Charles H. Ramsey  
Police Commissioner, City of Philadelphia  
President, Major Cities Chiefs' Association