



MAJOR CITIES CHIEFS ASSOCIATION

March 19, 2018

The Honorable Bob Goodlatte
2309 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Jerry Nadler
2109 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Goodlatte and Ranking Member Nadler:

Preventing crime and protecting the public are the top priorities of Chiefs and Sheriffs across the land. For this reason, the largest metropolitan police jurisdictions in the Nation support H.R. 2598, the Gun Violence Restraining Order Act of 2017. “Red flag” laws, such as those encouraged by this bill, will help empower individuals who “see something” to participate in keeping guns out of the hands of dangerous individuals and keeping their communities safe.

Identifying threats before they occur is critical in preventing violence and it is a responsibility jointly held by the law enforcement community and the community at large. Those who recognize warning signs should be provided every tool available to reduce any risk of harm to themselves and others. We too often have conversations about warning signs and the potential for preventative measures only after a tragedy occurs. States across the Nation have implemented emergency risk protection legislation and these safeguards have saved lives.

Our Nation’s police officers and the public are looking to you for the leadership this country needs to prevent violence. Please know that we will stand with you and we look forward to working with you in support of the Gun Violence Restraining Order Act of 2017.

Sincerely,

J. Thomas Manger
Chief of Police
Montgomery County Police Department
President, Major Cities Chiefs Association

c: The Honorable Salud Carbajal

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