



MAJOR CITIES CHIEFS ASSOCIATION

March 18, 2019

The Honorable Jerrold Nadler
Committee on the Judiciary
Chairman
2132 Rayburn Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Doug Collins
Committee on the Judiciary
Ranking Member
1504 Longworth HOB
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Nadler and Ranking Member Collins,

I write to you as both Chief of the Houston Police Department and President of the Major Cities Chiefs Association (MCCA) to thank you for reintroducing H.R 1325, the “Protect and Serve Act of 2019” and to register the strong support of the nation’s police chiefs for this important legislation.

This legislation is near the hearts, and on the minds, of my colleagues across the nation. This legislation is deeply personal to me. As five of my officers were attacked in an ambush while investigating a suspected drug case earlier this year. In recent years, we’ve seen a dangerous trend of armed attacks on officers and we need to act now. For all the major police agencies in the nation, we say that lawmakers should continue to proactively enact laws that create federal penalties for those who deliberately target local, state, and federal law enforcement officers with violence.

The Major Cities Chiefs Association has strongly advocated for legislation that strengthens the penalty for violence against law enforcement, which is exactly what this important legislation would do. As officers put themselves in danger each day to protect our citizens, we should do our best to keep them safe; HR 1325 is a productive step in the right direction.

Sincerely,

Art Acevedo
Chief, Houston Police Department
Major Cities Chiefs Association

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