

MAJOR CITIES CHIEFS ASSOCIATION

April 26, 2021

The Honorable Richard Blumenthal United States Senate Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Blumenthal,

I'm writing on behalf of the Major Cities Chiefs Association (MCCA) to register our support for S. 763, the *Lori Jackson Domestic Violence Survivor Protection Act*. The MCCA is a professional organization of police executives representing the largest cities in the United States and Canada.

Current law prohibits individuals under a restraining order or convicted of a crime of domestic violence against their current or former spouse, cohabitant, or an individual with whom they share a child from possessing a firearm. This has created a "boyfriend loophole," where individuals who are perpetrators of domestic violence are still eligible to purchase a firearm because their victim did not fall into one of these categories. Unfortunately, there have been far too many cases where these offenders used those firearms to commit further violence against their victims or others.

The *Lori Jackson Domestic Violence Survivor Protection Act* will close the "boyfriend loophole" and aligns with the MCCA's longstanding position on this issue. For example, in the Association's 2018 Firearms Violence Policy, the MCCA called for strengthening the definitions of prohibited purchasers related to domestic violence cases, with strict judicial procedures for appeal and reinstatement.

The MCCA looks forward to working with you to advance this vital piece of legislation. Please do not hesitate to contact me at <u>Art.Acevedo@miami-police.org</u> if the MCCA can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,

Chief Art Acevedo Chief, Miami Police Department President, Major Cities Chiefs Association

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