



July 27, 2021

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Speaker of the House
United States House of Representatives
H-232, U.S. Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy
Minority Leader
United States House of Representatives
H-204, U.S. Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Speaker Pelosi and Minority Leader McCarthy:

On behalf of the undersigned national law enforcement organizations, we write to respectfully urge the House to remove provisions from the Fiscal Year (FY) 2022 Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies (CJS) appropriations bill that relate to policing reform. We are concerned that including these provisions in a spending measure without careful and deliberate review by all impacted stakeholders will decrease federal funding to communities across the country, many of which are struggling to address rising violent crime. Provisions such as those in the CJS bill will also inhibit the substantial progress made on discussions with authors of the George Floyd Justice in Policing Act and the JUSTICE Act.

We are dedicated to ongoing work with Democrats and Republicans in Congress, the White House, and state legislatures on all policing and criminal justice reform issues. However, efforts to advance policing reform through an appropriations measure will harm the substantial bipartisan negotiations currently underway by undercutting the work already accomplished by Congressional offices and the relevant stakeholders.

Moreover, the numerous provisions included in the House's FY 2022 CJS spending measure applying new conditions on state and local law enforcement grant recipients must be carefully reviewed. Many of these proposals would potentially make countless communities ineligible for desperately needed grant funds that are directly tied to the Administration's goals and state and local efforts with respect to addressing violent crime, reducing gun violence, and law enforcement innovation in the next fiscal year. These provisions would also hinder public safety agencies' ability to access critical resources to develop strategies to treat those suffering with mental health and substance use issues and continue programs to reduce recidivism and improve outcomes for justice-involved individuals.

We appreciate that the House FY 2022 CJS appropriations bill continues to support important state and local law enforcement assistance programs and acknowledges the need to continue improving and building trust in the criminal justice system. We look forward to working with Congress, the Administration, and stakeholders across the criminal justice system to evaluate policing reform proposals and urge the House to allow those discussions to continue by removing the new conditions on law enforcement grants in the CJS appropriations bill.

Sincerely,

Federal Law Enforcement Officers Association (FLEOA)

Major Cities Chiefs Association (MCCA)

Major County Sheriffs of America (MCSA)

National Sheriffs' Association (NSA)

National Association of Police Organizations (NAPO)

National District Attorneys Association (NDAA)

Sergeants Benevolent Association, NYPD (SBA)

cc:

Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer

Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell

Chair Rosa DeLauro, Ranking Member Kay Granger, and Members of the House Appropriations Committee

Chair Patrick Leahy, Ranking Member Richard Shelby, and Members of the Senate Appropriations Committee