



January 24, 2022

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Chair
Committee on Appropriations
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Kay Granger
Ranking Member
Committee on Appropriations
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Patrick Leahy
Chair
Committee on Appropriations
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Richard Shelby
Ranking Member
Committee on Appropriations
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairwoman DeLauro, Ranking Member Granger, Chairman Leahy and Ranking Member Shelby:

On behalf of the undersigned national law enforcement organizations, we write to respectfully urge you to remove from consideration the provisions from H.R. 4505, the Fiscal Year (FY) 2022 Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies (CJS) Appropriations bill, that relate to policing reform grant conditions. We remain concerned that including these provisions in a spending measure will decrease federal funding to communities across the country, many of which are struggling to address rising violent crime.

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 by all impacted stakeholders. 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 and reducing gun violence in the next fiscal year.

According to the Major Cities Chiefs Association's latest [Violent Crime Report](#), there has been a 10 percent increase in homicides from January 1, 2021, to September 30, 2021, compared to the same period in 2020, and an approximately 37 percent increase compared to the same time frame in 2019. The FBI Uniformed Crime report echoes this data, showing that homicides in the United States jumped almost 30 percent in 2020 compared to 2019. This is the largest single-year increase in violent crime since the FBI began recording such statistics in 1960.

Further, there are an increasing number of individuals with mental illness and substance use issues coming into contact with the criminal justice system, which has stressed law enforcement's ability to meet the needs of those in crisis. Many of the grant conditions included in H.R. 4505 would hinder public safety agencies' ability to access 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 both the House and Senate FY 2022 CJS appropriations bills continue to support important state and local law enforcement assistance programs and recognize that these programs provide invaluable resources, training, and technical assistance to state and local law enforcement agencies. We urge you to leave the grant conditions related to policing reform out of the final Fiscal 2022 CJS appropriations bill to ensure that agencies maintain access to these necessary resources.

Sincerely,

Federal Law Enforcement Officers Association (FLEOA)
Major Cities Chiefs Association (MCCA)
Major County Sheriffs of America (MCSA)
National Association of Police Organizations (NAPO)
National District Attorneys Association (NDAA)
National Sheriffs' Association (NSA)
Sergeants Benevolent Association NYPD (SBA)

Cc:

Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer
Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell
Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi
House Minority Leader Kevin McCarthy