



MAJOR CITIES CHIEFS ASSOCIATION

July 13, 2022

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The Honorable Sheila Jackson Lee
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Jerrold Nadler
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Michael McCaul
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Rep. Jackson Lee, Rep. Nadler, and Rep. McCaul,

I write on behalf of the Major Cities Chiefs Association (MCCA) to register our support for H.R. 7566, the *Stop Human Trafficking in School Zones Act*. The MCCA is a professional organization of police executives representing the largest cities in the United States and Canada.

Child sex trafficking is one of the most despicable crimes an individual can commit. Sadly, there are far too many children victimized by this scourge. For example, the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children received more than 17,200 reports of possible child sex trafficking in 2021.¹ It's especially troubling that these crimes sometimes occur at schools, which should be a safe haven for America's children. H.R. 7566 will play an important part in addressing child sex trafficking by establishing additional penalties for offenders who commit these offenses in a school zone or within 1,000 feet of a school-sponsored activity. These enhanced penalties will help establish a strong deterrent and ensure those who commit these heinous acts are held accountable.

Thank you for your leadership and ongoing commitment to protecting America's children. Please do not hesitate to contact me if the MCCA can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,

Jeri Williams
Chief, Phoenix Police Department
President, Major Cities Chiefs Association

Calgary, Alberta
Edmonton, Alberta
Montreal, Québec
Ottawa, Ontario
Peel Region, Ontario
Toronto, Ontario
Vancouver, B.C.
Winnipeg, Manitoba
York Region, Ontario

¹ "The Issues: Child Sex Trafficking," National Center for Missing and Exploited Children.
<https://www.missingkids.org/theissues/trafficking>