



MAJOR CITIES CHIEFS ASSOCIATION

September 15, 2022

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The Honorable John Cornyn
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Gary Peters
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Chuck Grassley
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Kyrsten Sinema
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Thom Tillis
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Dianne Feinstein
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Ted Cruz
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Cornyn, Senator Peters, Senator Grassley, Senator Sinema, Senator Tillis, Senator Feinstein, and Senator Cruz,

I write on behalf of the Major Cities Chiefs Association (MCCA) to register our support for S. 4859, the *Project Safe Neighborhoods Reauthorization Act of 2022*. The MCCA is a professional organization of law enforcement executives representing the largest cities in the United States and Canada.

Federal and local law enforcement partnerships are crucial in addressing the increased violent crime plaguing communities throughout the United States. Project Safe Neighborhoods (PSN) helps promote this collaboration and is a valuable tool in the fight against violent crime. The authorization for PSN expired in FY 2021, and while the program has continued to receive appropriations, S. 4859 will provide additional stability by reauthorizing PSN for another five years.

The *Project Safe Neighborhoods Reauthorization Act* will also make several significant changes to the program, many of which were MCCA suggestions. For example, agencies will be able to use PSN funds to hire crime analysts and cover overtime costs for law enforcement assistants. These analysts and assistants are critical given the staffing shortages in many law enforcement agencies. Most importantly, this bill requires U.S. Attorneys to consult with local law enforcement when developing PSN violent crime

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Ottawa, Ontario
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Toronto, Ontario
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York Region, Ontario

reduction plans. This perspective is important as nobody knows more about the threats facing a community than the local law enforcement agency.

Thank you for your leadership on this issue and your continued support of local law enforcement. Please do not hesitate to contact me if the MCCA can further assist.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Jeri Williams".

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