

MAJOR CITIES CHIEFS ASSOCIATION

May 11, 2023

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Calgary, Alberta Edmonton, Alberta Montreal, Québec Ottawa, Ontario Peel Region, Ontario Toronto, Ontario Vancouver, B.C. Winnipeg, Manitoba York Region, Ontario The Honorable Richard J. Durbin

Chairman

Committee on the Judiciary

United States Senate Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Durbin,

I'm writing on behalf of the Major Cities Chiefs Association (MCCA) to register our support for S. 1247, the *Terry Technical Correction Act*. The MCCA is a professional organization of law enforcement executives representing the largest cities in the United States and Canada.

In 2010, Congress reduced the federal sentencing disparity for crack versus powder cocaine offenses. However, due to an unclear definition in statute, the Supreme Court held in *Terry v. United States* that individuals convicted of some of the least severe crack cocaine offenses are ineligible to be resentenced under the reduced disparity. The *Terry Technical Correction Act* will address this issue by clarifying that all offenders sentenced for a crack cocaine offense before the disparity was reduced are eligible to be resentenced. While the MCCA believes Congress should eliminate the federal sentencing disparity, until that happens, this legislation will help address inequities in our criminal justice system related to sentencing for crack cocaine offenses.

Thank you for your leadership and your continued support of law enforcement. Please do not hesitate to contact me if the MCCA can be of additional assistance.

Sincerely,

Laura Cooper Executive Director

Major Cities Chiefs Association

CC: The Honorable Chuck Grassley

The Honorable Cory Booker The Honorable Mike Lee The Honorable Rand Paul The Honorable Amy Klobuchar