

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 Marco Rubio United States Senate Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Jon Ossoff United States Senate Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Sherrod Brown United States Senate Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Sen. Rubio, Sen. Ossoff, and Sen. Brown,

I'm writing on behalf of the Major Cities Chiefs Association (MCCA) to register our support for S. 1514, the *HELPER Act*. The MCCA is a professional organization of law enforcement executives representing the largest cities in the United States and Canada.

The MCCA is a strong proponent of community and relational policing. These approaches help build the mutual trust and respect between law enforcement and the public that help make our communities safer. MCCA members have adopted many community and relational policing strategies, including encouraging officers to live in the communities they serve. However, this can be challenging in some MCCA member cities since it can be difficult for officers to find affordable housing.

The *HELPER Act* would help address this challenge by allowing law enforcement officers to obtain a low-interest, fully insured home loan. Equally as important, this legislation would help ensure that officers who have continued to serve their communities, without hesitation, despite increased levels of violent crime and numerous other challenges have access to affordable housing.

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 Raphael G. Warnock
The Honorable Robert Menendez
The Honorable Catherine Cortez Masto
The Honorable Richard Blumenthal



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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 John F. Rutherford United States House of Representatives Washington, D.C. 20515 The Honorable Bonnie Watson Coleman United States House of Representatives Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Rep. Rutherford and Rep. Watson Coleman,

I'm writing on behalf of the Major Cities Chiefs Association (MCCA) to register our support for H.R. 3170, the *HELPER Act*. The MCCA is a professional organization of law enforcement executives representing the largest cities in the United States and Canada.

The MCCA is a strong proponent of community and relational policing. These approaches help build the mutual trust and respect between law enforcement and the public that help make our communities safer. MCCA members have adopted many community and relational policing strategies, including encouraging officers to live in the communities they serve. However, this can be challenging in some MCCA member cities since it can be difficult for officers to find affordable housing.

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Sincerely,

Laura Cooper
Executive Director

Major Cities Chiefs Association