



MAJOR CITIES CHIEFS ASSOCIATION

May 12, 2023

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The Honorable John H. Rutherford
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Henry Cuellar
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Rep. Rutherford and Rep. Cuellar,

I'm writing on behalf of the Major Cities Chiefs Association (MCCA) to register our support for H.R. 2620, the *Federal Firearms Licensee Protection Act of 2023*. The MCCA is a professional organization of law enforcement executives representing the largest cities in the United States and Canada.

MCCA members continue to work tirelessly to address increased levels of violent crime plaguing cities throughout the country. Nearly every MCCA member has reported an increase in shootings, and law enforcement officers continue to recover an unprecedented number of firearms. According to MCCA data, homicides and aggravated assaults, both of which often involve the use of a gun, rose by 43% and 35%, respectively, in 2022 compared to 2019.

Addressing stolen firearms will be an important aspect of law enforcement's response to rising gun violence. Stolen firearms are frequently sold on the black market and remain a steady source of crime guns. Furthermore, when recovered as part of a criminal investigation, these firearms are more difficult for law enforcement to trace back to the shooter. By strengthening the penalty for firearms thefts from Federal Firearm Licensees, the *Federal Firearms Licensee Protection Act of 2023* will create a significant deterrent and help keep guns out of the hands of violent criminals.

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

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