

MAJOR CITIES CHIEFS ASSOCIATION

May 15, 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 Mike Braun United States Senate Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Vern Buchanan United States House of Representatives Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Sen. Braun and Rep. Buchanan,

I'm writing on behalf of the Major Cities Chiefs Association (MCCA) to register our support for S. 459/H.R. 130, the *Thin Blue Line Act*. The MCCA is a professional organization of law enforcement executives representing the largest cities in the United States and Canada.

Over the past few years, MCCA members have reported an increase in violent attacks against law enforcement officers. For example, during a six-month period last year, one MCCA member had eight officers shot in the line of duty. In another MCCA member agency, 37 shots were fired at officers during that time, but fortunately, only one officer was injured. The violence being directed toward America's brave law enforcement officers must stop immediately.

The *Thin Blue Line Act* will make killing or targeting a law enforcement officer an aggravating factor in federal death penalty cases. Under current law, this crime can only be considered an aggravating factor if the victim is a federal law enforcement officer. Enhancing this provision to include state and local officers will help prevent future violence by creating a strong deterrent.

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 Ted Cruz

The Honorable Ron Johnson The Honorable Marco Rubio The Honorable James Lankford

The Honorable Eric Schmitt

The Honorable Thomas Tillis

The Honorable Bill Hagerty

The Honorable John Hoeven

The Honorable John Kennedy

The Honorable John Boozman

The Honorable Ted Budd

The Honorable Michael Waltz

The Honorable Nicole Malliotakis

The Honorable Brian K. Fitzpatrick

The Honorable Randy K. Weber

The Honorable Ralph Norman

The Honorable Bill Johnson

The Honorable Garret Graves

The Honorable Bill Posey