



MAJOR CITIES CHIEFS ASSOCIATION

May 16, 2023

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The Honorable Abigail Davis Spanberger
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Brian K. Fitzpatrick
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Daniel T. Kildee
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Don Bacon
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Rep. Spanberger, Rep. Fitzpatrick, Rep. Kildee, and Rep. Bacon,

I'm writing on behalf of the Major Cities Chiefs Association (MCCA) to register our support for H.R. 957, the *Public Safety Retirees Healthcare Protection Act of 2023*. The MCCA is a professional organization of law enforcement executives representing the largest cities in the United States and Canada.

Ensuring officer health and wellness is a top MCCA priority. Law enforcement agencies must promote health and wellness throughout officers, executives, and other agency personnel's entire careers. Resources should be available from their first day on the job and continue into retirement. However, due to state law, pension structure, or other factors, officers often retire and lose access to employer-sponsored healthcare prior to being eligible for Medicare. Current law allows retired officers to withdraw up to \$3,000 tax-free from their pension annually to pay for healthcare coverage. However, this threshold was established in 2006 and has not been updated to account for increasing healthcare costs or inflation. H.R. 957 will address this challenge by increasing the annual tax-free distribution an officer can receive from their pension to \$6,000.

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