



## MAJOR CITIES CHIEFS ASSOCIATION

July 13, 2023

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Aurora  
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Dallas  
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El Paso  
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Jacksonville  
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New Orleans  
New York City  
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Oakland  
Oklahoma City  
Omaha  
Orlando  
Philadelphia  
Phoenix  
Pittsburgh  
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Prince George's Co.  
Raleigh  
Sacramento  
Salt Lake City  
San Antonio  
San Diego  
San Francisco  
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Seattle  
St. Louis  
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Suffolk Co.  
Tampa  
Tucson  
Tulsa  
Virginia Beach  
Washington DC  
Wichita

The Honorable Chris Pappas  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Rep. Pappas,

I'm writing on behalf of the Major Cities Chiefs Association (MCCA) to register our support for H.R. 4632, the *National ACERT Grant Program Authorization Act*. The MCCA is a professional organization of law enforcement executives representing the largest cities in the United States and Canada.

Adverse Childhood Experience Response Teams (ACERT) work with children who experience a traumatic incident. These multidisciplinary teams often consist of law enforcement, healthcare personnel, and social service providers. ACERT is responsible for connecting children to services and other resources they may need to help them process the traumatic incident as healthily as possible.

The *National ACERT Grant Program Authorization Act* will create a grant program to assist local jurisdictions with establishing ACERT. This will help improve coordination between law enforcement and other relevant organizations, which will make the process of connecting children who witness a traumatic event to services more efficient. This work is incredibly important, especially considering that many MCCA members have reported an increase in juvenile crime over the past few years. Addressing childhood trauma could help youth get back on the right path before they engage in more destructive behavior.

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,

Eddie Garcia  
Chief, Dallas Police Department  
President, 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

CC: The Honorable John H. Rutherford  
The Honorable Brian K. Fitzpatrick  
The Honorable Thomas H. Kean  
The Honorable Ann M. Kuster



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Wichita

The Honorable Jeanne Shaheen  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Marsha Blackburn  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Sen. Shaheen and Sen. Blackburn,

I'm writing on behalf of the Major Cities Chiefs Association (MCCA) to register our support for S. 2298, the *National ACERT Grant Program Authorization Act*. The MCCA is a professional organization of law enforcement executives representing the largest cities in the United States and Canada.

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