



## MAJOR CITIES CHIEFS ASSOCIATION

November 20, 2023

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The Honorable Michael Lawler  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative Lawler,

I'm writing on behalf of the Major Cities Chiefs Association (MCCA) to register our support for H.R. 6055, the *Schools Want Accountability for Threats (SWAT) Act*. The MCCA is a professional organization of law enforcement executives representing the largest cities in the United States and Canada.

MCCA members have reported a recent increase in bomb threats, active shooter threats, and other swatting incidents at schools in their jurisdictions. When swatting occurs at a school, it can traumatize students, their parents, and the school's teachers and faculty. It also undermines the safe environment needed to promote learning. Given the seriousness of these incidents, the law enforcement response is also incredibly resource-intensive. The *SWAT Act* will help address this threat by increasing the maximum penalty for swatting offenses that target a school. Updating the federal code to include enhanced penalties for those who perpetrate a swatting attack against a school will help establish a strong deterrent that may prevent future incidents from occurring.

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