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March 4, 2025

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

Dear Representative Rutherford,

On behalf of the Major Cities Chiefs Association (MCCA), I am writing to express our strong support for the *Federal Firearms Licensee Protection Act*. The MCCA represents the Chiefs and Sheriffs of the seventy largest law enforcement agencies in the United States and the nine largest in Canada, collectively serving over 95 million people.

The theft of firearms from Federal Firearms Licensees (FLLs), gun ranges, and shooting clubs, poses a significant public safety threat. Stolen firearms often find their way into the black market, where they are sold to individuals who would otherwise be prohibited from legally obtaining a firearm. These illicit firearms fuel violent crime and further endanger the communities our members are sworn to protect. Additionally, stolen firearms present substantial challenges for law enforcement agencies, making it more difficult to trace weapons used in crimes back to the perpetrators.

The Federal Firearms Licensee Protection Act takes critical steps to address this issue by enhancing penalties for thefts from FLLs, including mandatory minimum sentences for burglaries and robberies. The legislation also appropriately criminalizes thefts from gun ranges and shooting clubs, closing a loophole that leaves these facilities vulnerable to similar crimes. By imposing stronger penalties, this bill will serve as a powerful deterrent to those seeking to steal firearms and help prevent guns from falling into the wrong hands.

Thank you for your work on this issue and for your continued commitment to public safety. The MCCA looks forward to supporting your efforts to advance this bill. Please do not hesitate to contact our Executive Director, Laura Cooper, at cooper@majorcitieschiefs.com if we can be of any assistance.

Sincerely,

Harold Medina
Chief, Albuquerque Police Department
President, Major Cities Chiefs Association