



August 16, 2023

The Honorable Josh Harder
United States House of Representatives
209 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Harder,

I write today on behalf of the Peace Officers Research Association of California (PORAC), representing approximately 80,000 public safety members and 955 public safety associations across our State. PORAC is pleased to support your legislation, the *Investing in Community Safety Act of 2023* (H.R. 4246), which would amend the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to authorize the use of COPS grants for recruitment efforts.

Every day, the men and women of state and local law enforcement risk their lives, fearlessly protecting their communities from the rising tide of violent crime. However, the dedication and sacrifices of these officers are strained as police departments across the nation grapple with overwhelming responsibilities and dwindling resources. In the aftermath of the contentious debates surrounding police funding, law enforcement agencies now face an urgent and complex challenge in maintaining a full and qualified police force. By allowing COPS grants to be used for recruitment efforts, this legislation will mitigate the strains faced by agencies. Now, more than ever, it is crucial that we support law enforcement to ensure the well-being and safety of our communities.

PORAC sincerely appreciates your work on this legislation to support police officers and address this staffing shortage. We look forward to working together to push this effort forward in the 118th Congress. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call the PORAC Headquarters (916) 928-3777 or contact our legislative advocates at Steptoe & Johnson LLP (202) 429-6457.

Very Truly Yours,
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