

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

September 21, 2022

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Speaker of the House
H-232, U.S. Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Steny Hoyer
Majority Leader
H-107, U.S. Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable James E. Clyburn
Majority Whip
H-329, U.S. Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Speaker Pelosi, Majority Leader Hoyer, and Majority Whip Clyburn:

We respectfully urge the House of Representatives to take up commonsense, bipartisan legislation to support public safety.

Crime affects every community—from our nation’s most rural towns to its biggest cities. Its victims are Americans of every demographic. We represent drastically different districts from across the country, but all of us regularly hear from constituents who voice concerns about rising crime rates. Recent public opinion polls even show that violent crime ranks as the third most important issue among registered voters.¹ We feel strongly that Congress must address the issue immediately.

While no single policy can bring down violent crime on its own—just as no single factor is causing crime rates to rise—there are numerous existing bipartisan legislative proposals that we believe are worthy of consideration in the House. The bills before us support public safety in a balanced, comprehensive way.

One proposal introduced this year would provide police departments with additional funding to hire, retain, and train officers in community policing. Others would provide targeted support to small, local police departments and establish new programs to investigate shootings and support victims and their families. Another proposal would invest in mental health response teams, while yet another would support violence intervention initiatives.

¹ “Midterm Election Preferences, Voter Engagement, Views of Campaign Issues.” Pew Research Center, August 23, 2022. <https://www.pewresearch.org/politics/2022/08/23/midterm-election-preferences-voter-engagement-views-of-campaign-issues/>.

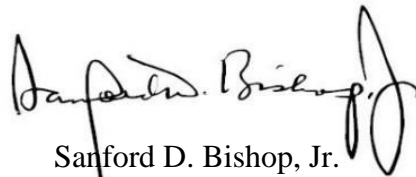
Taken together, these bills represent an important first step in bolstering public safety and reversing profoundly concerning increases in rates of violent crime. They also send a clear message that Congress is committed to partnering with state and local governments to make all of our communities safer.

Thank you for your leadership and for your consideration of this important request. Please do not hesitate to contact our offices if we can answer any questions.

Sincerely,



Henry Cuellar
Member of Congress



Sanford D. Bishop, Jr.
Member of Congress



Cindy Axne
Member of Congress



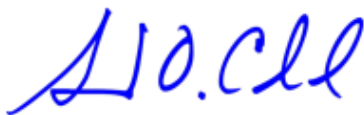
Angie Craig
Member of Congress



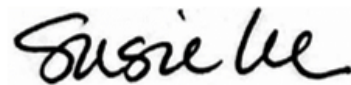
Jim Costa
Member of Congress



Mike Thompson
Member of Congress



Salud Carbajal
Member of Congress



Susie Lee
Member of Congress



Tom O'Halleran
Member of Congress



Susan Wild
Member of Congress



Mikie Sherrill
Member of Congress



Vicente Gonzalez
Member of Congress



David Trone
Member of Congress