

# United States Senate

June 16, 2021

The Honorable Jeanne Shaheen  
Chairwoman  
Senate Appropriations Committee  
Commerce, Justice, & Science Subcommittee  
Subcommittee  
506 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Jerry Moran  
Ranking Member  
Senate Appropriations Committee  
Commerce, Justice, & Science  
521 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairwoman Shaheen and Ranking Member Moran:

As you consider funding levels for Fiscal Year 2022, we urge you to fund the Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) Hiring Program at a minimum of \$400 million.

The COPS Hiring Program represents a fiscally responsible solution to ensure that our communities remain safe. When officers establish a presence on their patrols using community-policing principles, they can develop positive relationships with the communities they serve. In turn, these relationships increase law enforcement's ability to solve local crimes and resolve public safety problems. This proactive approach to policing prevents crime from occurring, saving taxpayers the high societal costs associated with crime, incarceration, and services for victims.

Since its creation, the COPS Office has assisted over 13,000 of the nation's 16,000 jurisdictions with more than \$14 billion in funding to hire approximately 134,000 additional officers. The program plays an essential role in our federal government's support for local law enforcement and should therefore receive the highest possible level of funding.

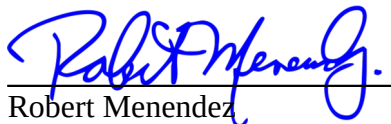
As you know, the COPS Hiring Program grant solicitation was on hold due to the issuance of a nationwide injunction by a U.S. District Court on April 12, 2018. In February 2020, the Department of Justice released over \$500 million in grant solicitations under the COPS Hiring Program and several other grant programs that advance community policing and promote the health and safety of our nation's law enforcement officers. The COPS Office received 1,091 applications during the open solicitation period from law enforcement agencies in nearly every state and U.S. territory. After careful review of all applications, the COPS Office made FY 2020 COPS Hiring Program awards to 605 state, local, and tribal law enforcement agencies totaling \$399,469,632 to support the hiring of 2,761 full-time law enforcement officers. Clearly, the program is in high demand and unable to meet that demand at current levels.

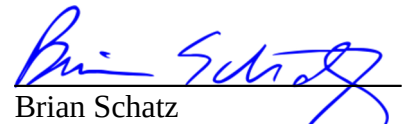
We are supported in this request by law enforcement organizations including the Fraternal Order of Police, National Association of Police Organizations, the U.S. Conference of Mayors, Federal

Law Enforcement Officers Association, and the Major Cities Chiefs Association. We appreciate the hard work and leadership that you have shown on these issues. Ongoing crime and violence in our cities continue to demonstrate the vital need for increased police protection in our communities. Therefore, as you determine the funding levels for this program, we ask that you support funding for the COPS Hiring Program at the highest possible level.

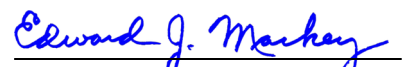
Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,


  
Robert Menendez  
United States Senator


  
Brian Schatz  
United States Senator

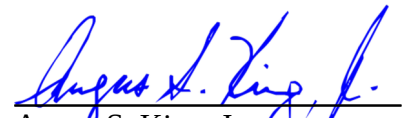
  
Mazie K. Hirono  
United States Senator

  
Edward J. Markey  
United States Senator

  
Thomas R. Carper  
United States Senator

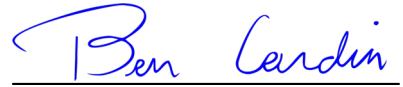
  
Sherrod Brown  
United States Senator

  
Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

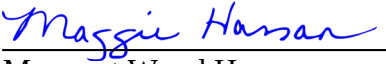
  
Angus S. King, Jr.  
United States Senator



Richard Blumenthal  
United States Senator



Benjamin L. Cardin  
United States Senator



Margaret Wood Hassan  
United States Senator



Kirsten Gillibrand  
United States Senator



Catherine Cortez Masto  
United States Senator



Jon Tester  
United States Senator



Jack Reed  
United States Senator



Elizabeth Warren  
United States Senator



Sheldon Whitehouse  
United States Senator



Christopher A. Coons  
United States Senator



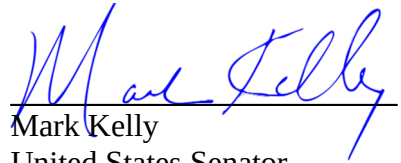
Christopher S. Murphy  
United States Senator



Dianne Feinstein  
United States Senator



Joe Manchin III  
United States Senator



Mark Kelly  
United States Senator



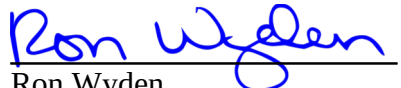
Mark R. Warner  
United States Senator



Tammy Baldwin  
United States Senator



Debbie Stabenow  
United States Senator



Ron Wyden  
United States Senator



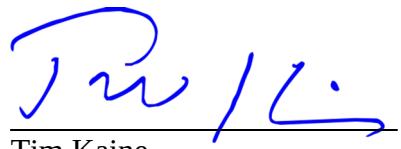
Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



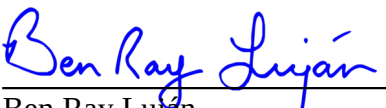
Kyrsten Sinema  
United States Senator



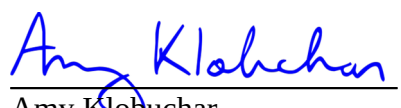
Robert P. Casey, Jr.  
United States Senator



Tim Kaine  
United States Senator



Ben Ray Lujan  
United States Senator



Amy Klobuchar  
United States Senator



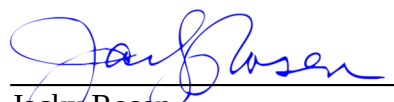
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Jon Ossoff  
United States Senator



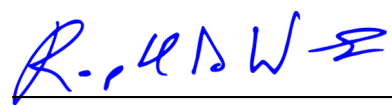
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Michael F. Bennet  
United States Senator



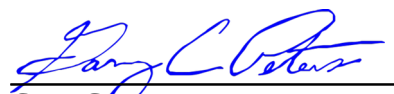
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Jacky Rosen  
United States Senator



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Raphael G. Warnock  
United States Senator



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Gary C. Peters

**Commerce, Justice and Science Group Letter Table**  
**CJS\_Menendez\_Group\_210617-072406[LetterID 4644]**

ID	Sub	Request Agency or Account	Request Project Name	Request (\$000)
35894	CJS Group	[Title II]/[Department of Justice]/[Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS)]/[COPS Hiring Program] <b>[Member Staff]</b> - John Butchko John_Butchko@menendez.senate.gov 202-224-7994	COPS Hiring Program <b>[Member's Request (text)]</b> - Highest Possible Level	\$400,000

## Appropriations Request Database

Request ID: 35894			
Agency or Account:	[Title II]/[Department of Justice]/[Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS)]/[COPS Hiring Program]		Project Name: COPS Hiring Program
Member/s:	Menendez, Robert(D-NJ); Baldwin, Tammy(D-WI); Bennet, Michael(D-CO); Blumenthal, Richard(D-CT); Brown, Sherrod(D-OH); Cardin, Benjamin(D-MD); Carper, Thomas(D-DE); Casey, Robert(D-PA); Coons, Christopher(D-DE); Cortez Masto, Catherine(D-NV); Duckworth, Tammy(D-IL); Durbin, Richard(D-IL); Feinstein, Dianne(D-CA); Gillibrand, Kirsten(D-NY); Hassan, Margaret Wood(D-NH); Hirono, Mazie(D-HI); Kaine, Tim(D-VA); Kelly, Mark(D-AZ); King, Angus(I-ME); Klobuchar, Amy(D-MN); Luján, Ben Ray(D-NM); Manchin, Joe(D-WV); Markey, Edward(D-MA); Murphy, Christopher(D-CT); Ossoff, Jon(D-GA); Peters, Gary(D-MI); Reed, Jack(D-RI); Rosen, Jacky(D-NV); Schatz, Brian(D-HI); Sinema, Kyrsten(D-AZ); Stabenow, Debbie(D-MI); Tester, Jon(D-MT); Warner, Mark(D-VA); Warnock, Raphael(D-GA); Warren, Elizabeth(D-MA); Whitehouse, Sheldon(D-RI); Wyden, Ron(D-OR)		Subcommittee: CJS
Request Type:	Group		Staff Contact: John Butchko John_Butchko@menendez.senate.gov 202-224-7994
Justification:	<p>As you consider funding levels for Fiscal Year 2022, we urge you to fund the Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) Hiring Program at a minimum of \$400 million.</p> <p>The COPS Hiring Program represents a fiscally responsible solution to ensure that our communities remain safe. When officers establish a presence on their patrols using community policing principles, they can develop positive relationships with the communities they serve. In turn, these relationships increase law enforcement's ability to solve local crimes and resolve public safety problems. This proactive approach to policing prevents crime from occurring, saving taxpayers the high societal costs associated with crime, incarceration, and services for victims.</p> <p>Since its creation, the COPS Office has assisted over 13,000 of the nation's 16,000 jurisdictions with more than \$14 billion in funding to hire approximately 134,000 additional officers. The program plays an essential role in our federal government's support for local law enforcement and should therefore receive the highest possible level of funding.</p> <p>As you know, the COPS Hiring Program grant solicitation was on hold due to the issuance of a nationwide injunction by a U.S. District Court on April 12, 2018. In February 2020, the Department of Justice released over \$500 million in grant solicitations under the COPS Hiring Program and several other grant programs that advance community policing and promote the health and safety of our nation's law enforcement officers. The COPS Office received 1,091 applications during the open solicitation period from law enforcement agencies in nearly every state and U.S. territory. After careful review of all applications, the COPS Office made FY 2020 COPS Hiring Program awards to 605 state, local, and tribal law enforcement agencies totaling \$399,469,632 to support the hiring of 2,761 full-time law enforcement officers. Clearly, the</p> <p>program is in high demand and unable to meet that demand at current levels.</p> <p>We are supported in this request by law enforcement organizations including the Fraternal Order of Police, National Association of Police Organizations, the U.S. Conference of Mayors, Federal Law Enforcement Officers Association, and the Major Cities Chiefs Association. We appreciate the hard work and leadership that you have shown on these issues. Ongoing crime and violence in our cities continue to demonstrate the vital need for increased police protection in our communities. Therefore, as you determine the funding levels for this program, we ask that you support funding for the COPS Hiring Program at the highest possible level.</p> <p>Thank you for your consideration of this request.</p>		
Proposed Bill Language:		Proposed Report Language:	
Member's Request:	\$400,000	Member's Request (text):	Highest Possible Level
Enacted Level:	\$0	President's Request:	\$0
CDS Request:	No		