

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

June 18, 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:

As we have over the last two years, we continue to hear from our constituents who are extremely concerned about the rising level of crime in the country, and about the importance of enforcing laws already on the books. That is why we have consistently advocated for commonsense, bipartisan legislation to increase investment in local police departments to boost the numbers, retention, training, and accountability of law enforcement officers on the beat.

There are a number of bipartisan bills supporting increased resources for police departments and officers that we believe should be considered as standalone legislation by the House no later than when Congress returns from the July 4 district work period. We are aware, however, of an effort to try and package police funding bills with Fiscal Year 2023 appropriations. We disagree with adding these into appropriations legislation. First, it may not be feasible. Second, it would prevent Members from publicly showing their support for law enforcement. Third, it could limit the bipartisan support that we believe only strengthens these measures.

The House Judiciary Committee has made clear to several members that it has no intention of bringing any law enforcement bills through the markup process. Therefore, we implore you to please use your power to bring these bills to the Floor for up or down votes, as you did recently with the Protecting Our Kids Act bill, so that every member can be on the record and their constituents can know where they stand.

To that end, we are asking that leadership commit to bringing the following pieces of legislation to the Floor immediately after the July 4 recess, and to bring them as standalone bills:

- H.R. 6448, Reps. Josh Gottheimer and Rutherford’s “Invest to Protect Act” (D-53, R-23).
 - Passed unanimously by the Senate Judiciary Committee.
- H.R. 6375, Reps. Tom Rice and Abigail Spanberger’s “COPS on the Beat Program Reauthorization and Parity Act” (D-30, R-24).
- H.R. 1368, Reps. Katie Porter and Michelle Steel’s “Mental Health Justice Act” (D-126, R-1).
- H.R. 7826, Rep. Dean Phillips’ “Pathways to Policing Act” (D-4, R-5).

Members should have the opportunity to show our constituents that we are addressing crime in our communities. We are also asking that you please meet with us next week to discuss the need to invest in law enforcement to make our communities safer from criminals. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Josh Gottheimer
Member of Congress



Katie Porter
Member of Congress



Dean Phillips
Member of Congress

Abigail Spanberger
Member of Congress

/s
Susie Lee
Member of Congress

/s
Tom O’Halloran
Member of Congress

/s
Daniel T. Kildee
Member of Congress

/s
Tom Suozzi
Member of Congress

_____/s_____
Jared Golden
Member of Congress

_____/s_____
Jimmy Panetta
Member of Congress

_____/s_____
Angie Craig
Member of Congress

_____/s_____
Ed Case
Member of Congress

_____/s_____
Mikie Sherrill
Members of Congress

_____/s_____
Jim Costa
Member of Congress

_____/s_____
Tom Malinowski
Member of Congress

_____/s_____
Kurt Schrader
Member of Congress

_____/s_____
Mike Levin
Member of Congress

_____/s_____
Susan Wild
Member of Congress

_____/s_____
Chris Pappas
Member of Congress

_____/s_____
Cindy Axne
Member of Congress

_____/s_____
Elissa Slotkin
Member of Congress

_____/s_____
Salud Carbajal
Member of Congress

_____/s_____
Ann McLane Kuster
Member of Congress