



THE UNITED STATES CONFERENCE OF MAYORS

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June 9, 2020

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Speaker
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Majority Leader
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy
Republican Leader
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Charles E. Schumer
Democratic Leader
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Speaker Pelosi, Leader McConnell, Leader McCarthy, and Leader Schumer,

We write to express our support for Congress to take thoughtful and decisive action to work toward police reform and social justice. We applaud the introduction of the Justice in Policing Act of 2020, which includes provisions relating to critical areas in which reform is badly needed. And we are heartened to see additional conversations happening around police reform.

The U.S. Conference of Mayors is committed to meaningful reforms to address police violence and patterns of racial discrimination in our own communities and beyond. Conference President and Rochester Hills, MI Mayor Bryan K. Barnett has asked us to serve as members of a Police Reform and Racial Justice Working Group and charged us with outlining a series of specific recommendations related to America's policing practices to help end the injustices facing black Americans.

At our first meeting today, we discussed the bill and want you to know of our commitment to working with you on it. We strongly believe and urge that you and other members of Congress talk with mayors and police chiefs about it. As mayors, we are on the front lines of this important conversation with our community and many mayors and police chiefs initiated police reform and accountability measures years ago and have a wealth of experience to add to this most important discussion. We stand ready to meet with you, the bill's sponsors, or other Congressional leaders as part of the legislative process.

We have an opportunity right now to make some needed and important reforms to policing and to work toward racial justice. Let's seize the moment together.

Sincerely,

Lori E. Lightfoot
Mayor of Chicago

John Cranley
Mayor of Cincinnati

Jane Castor
Mayor of Tampa

Michael S. Harrison
Commissioner
Baltimore Police Department

W.H. "Skip" Holbrook
Chief
Columbia, SC Police Department

Jeri L. Williams
Chief
Phoenix Police Department

Tom Cochran
CEO and Executive Director
The United States Conference of Mayors

Charles Ramsey
Advisor
The United States Conference of Mayors

CC:

The Honorable Karen Bass
The Honorable Corey Booker
The Honorable Kamala Harris
The Honorable Jerrold Nadler