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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-3311

The Honorable John Culberson
Chairman
House Appropriations Subcommittee on
Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies
H - 310, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Jose' Enrique Serrano
Ranking Member
House Appropriations Subcommittee on
Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies
H - 310, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

February 26, 2018

Dear Chairman Culberson and Ranking Member Serrano:

As your subcommittee begins work on the Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Appropriations bill for fiscal year 2019, I respectfully request that you adequately fund the Community Oriented Policing Services grant program at a level of \$1.5 billion. I also respectfully request that you consider setting aside a proportion of the funding available for hiring grants to support School Resource Officer programs.

As you are aware, grants provided by the Department of Justice administered through its Office of Community Oriented Policing Services to assist local communities in hiring School Resource Officers. I have long supported the School Resource Officer program, having in the past introduced standalone legislation titled the *Protect America's Schools Act* to provide additional resources for this important program. More information on this bill may be found here: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/113th-congress/house-bill/751>

There are unfortunately no perfect solutions to prevent school shootings. But School Resource Officers — who are sworn law enforcement officers with special training for working in schools — provide another layer of security for our children; while also building valuable relationships with students, faculty and parents, and within local communities.

In light of the recent tragic school shooting in Parkland, Florida, we must certainly do more to ensure the safety and security of the nation's schools and students. I urge you, therefore, to provide adequate funding for the School Resource Officer program. Thank you for considering this request.

Sincerely,



Mark R. Meadows
Member of Congress