

## NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF POLICE ORGANIZATIONS, INC.

Representing America's Finest

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WILLIAM J. JOHNSON Executive Director

April 2, 2014

The Honorable Amy Klobuchar United States Senate 302 Hart Senate Office Building Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Klobuchar:

On behalf of the National Association of Police Organizations (NAPO), representing over 241,000 sworn law enforcement officers and more than 1,000 police unions from across the United States, I am writing to you to express full support for the "COPS Improvements Act of 2014."

The Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) Program provides state and local law enforcement departments with necessary funding to assist their efforts to keep communities safe. The COPS Program facilitates the development of cooperative relationships between officers and the communities they serve, which yields increased public safety.

Since its inception, the COPS Office has been extremely successful in implementing and carrying out its mission. The COPS Hiring Program has assisted over 13,000 jurisdictions with over \$13 billion in funding to hire more than 125,000 community police officers across the United States. This funding has contributed to continued success in combating crime, drug use, and gangs; reducing and preventing the manufacture, distribution, and use of illegal drugs; and addressing emerging law enforcement needs.

The COPS Program is an invaluable resource, which assists state and local law enforcement agencies in their efforts to keep communities safe. NAPO stands ready to support you to ensure this important legislation is passed.

If you have any questions, or if we can be of further assistance, please feel free to contact me at (703) 549-0775.

Sincerely,

William J. Johnson Executive Director