

# NATIONAL SHERIFFS' ASSOCIATION



**AARON D. KENNARD**  
Executive Director

April 2, 2014

The Honorable Amy Klobuchar  
United States Senate  
302 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Klobuchar:

On behalf of the National Sheriffs' Association (NSA), and the more than 3,000 elected sheriffs nationwide, I am writing to express our support for a bill you intend to introduce: the "COPS Improvements Act of 2014." By amending the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968, this bill will enhance the COPS on the Beat grant program.

The Office of Community Oriented Policing Services grant program provides invaluable support to tribal and local law enforcement agencies. Its continued improvement is in the interest of all sheriffs and the communities in which they serve. As stated in your bill, such improvements include increased partnerships between local law enforcement and local school systems; programs to reduce and prevent illegal drug manufacturing, distribution, and use; and grants to develop and utilize new technology.

As we've seen over the years, community policing is a powerful tool with which to combat crime and your bill ensures that the COPS Office will remain a key facilitator of it. Safeguarding our communities against local crime, gangs, and drug activities is a priority for the nation's sheriffs. Accordingly, the National Sheriffs' Association applauds the introduction of the "COPS Improvement Act of 2014" and looks forward to working with you to pass this critical legislation during the 113<sup>th</sup> Congress.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Aaron D. Kennard". The signature is fluid and cursive, written in a professional style.

Sheriff (ret.) Aaron D. Kennard  
Executive Director