



INTERNATIONAL UNION OF POLICE ASSOCIATIONS

THE ONLY UNION FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS

SAM A. CABRAL
International President

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May 3, 2021

The Honorable Catherine Cortez Masto
United States Senate
313 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Cortez Masto,

On behalf of the International Union of Police Associations, AFL-CIO, I am proud to add our support to your critical legislation, **S. 1502**, the “**COPS Counseling Act**”.

We lose more Law Enforcement Officers to suicide than any other duty related cause. That is unconscionable, but understandable. Some have turned to alcohol and drugs to manage their stresses and anxieties.

Peer counseling has proven to be critical in assisting Law Enforcement Officers in dealing with the horrors they witness and deal with. Currently, initial training does not adequately prepare them for the events that they will encounter throughout their careers. It is also important that these sessions remain confidential or these men and women will not avail themselves of this help.

This important legislation will aid greatly in enhancing peer counseling and providing these brave men and women with the psychological help they so desperately need.

I look forward to working with you and your staff to see this Bill move forward and be signed into law.

Very Respectfully,

Sam A. Cabral
International President