



INTERNATIONAL UNION OF POLICE ASSOCIATIONS

THE ONLY UNION FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS

SAM A. CABRAL
International President

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July 19, 2021

The Honorable Marcy Kaptur
U.S. House of Representatives
2186 Rayburn Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congresswoman Kaptur:

On behalf of the International Union of Police Associations, AFL-CIO, I am proud to add our organization to those who support your needed legislation, **H.R. 3595**, the “**Law Enforcement Training for Mental Health Crisis Response Act of 2021**”.

The I.U.P.A. represents active duty, rank and file officers across this great nation. Many of our members serve the people of Ohio.

Law enforcement officers are being tasked with situations when the public does not know who can help. They dial 911 and we send our officers to resolve the problem. Many of these situations deal with mental health crises. Most of our street officers are not adequately trained in the optimum course of action that is needed to resolve these issues in the most effective manner. Our departments are trying to deal with these issues, while at the same time addressing staffing shortages, retention issues, and poor recruiting. These challenges exacerbate fiscal difficulties. All of these trials result in an inability to provide meaningful and comprehensive additional training.

Your bill will greatly aid in this by providing grants to be directed at this needed training and give these men and women additional tools with which to handle these critical events more effectively.

I look forward to working with you and your staff to move this legislation forward.

Very Respectfully,

Sam A. Cabral
International President