May 8, 2023

The Honorable John Kennedy
The Honorable Thom Tillis
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senators Kennedy and Tillis:

On behalf of the International Union of Police Associations (I.U.P.A.), I am pleased to announce our support of your thoughtful and timely legislation, “A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to improve the Law Enforcement Officers Safety Act of 2004 and provisions relating to the carrying of concealed weapons by law enforcement officers, and for other purposes”.

The International Union of Police Associations, AFL-CIO, represents rank and file, active-duty law enforcement professionals across this great nation, including in the U.S. territories of Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands.

This bill provides greater access to the carrying of concealed firearms to law enforcement officers who have qualified to be armed by federal statute and their departments. As importantly, it provides that law enforcement agencies may increase the time between qualification from one year to three years. The extended qualification period is important to the departments as it will relieve some of the staffing burdens currently imposed by the yearly standards and the burdens of those retirees who are qualified.

It will enhance public safety by having a greater number of trained, armed, and experienced persons in public places where we have seen such an increase in active shootings.

We look forward to working with you and your staff to see this critical legislation move forward.

Very Respectfully,

Sam A. Cabral
International President