

## INTERNATIONAL UNION OF POLICE ASSOCIATIONS

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The Only Union for Law Enforcement Officers

January 2, 2024

The Honorable Mike Garcia United States House of Representatives 144 Cannon House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Garcia:

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, **H.R. 2592**, the "Safe Schools Act".

This legislation provides that a state agency or local educational agency that has received funds under an ESSERF program may, in lieu of the original quested or authorized use for such funds, use a portion of, or all, of the unexpended funds to carry out one or more school security measures. These could include security measures such as metal detectors, training for staff, emergency notification equipment, and the hiring of retired law enforcement officers or military veterans to provide onsite security for our school children.

The International Union of Police Associations, AFL-CIO, represents rank and file, active-duty law enforcement professionals across this great nation, including the U.S. territories of Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands. We recognize the need for such security enhancements before another tragedy strikes one or more of our schools. Your legislation will be useful in that endeavor.

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

Very Respectfully,

Sam A. Cabral

International President