

CONGRESSMAN DAVE REICHERT

Supporting Local Law Enforcement & Keeping America Safe

The Reichert Doctrine: *Local law enforcement is equally as important as federal law enforcement, and is increasingly being asked to shoulder more responsibilities with fewer resources. Local cops are not just keeping our communities safe, but are manning the front lines to protect our homeland from terrorist threats. No federal agency can safeguard our homes and communities better than the local cops on the streets, and accordingly, we must give them the federal resources they need to get the job done.*

- ◆ **Advancing Interoperability and Greater Information Sharing:** Co-authored legislation authorizing the Global Justice Information Sharing Initiative Advisory Committee (GAC), which brings representatives from law enforcement, corrections, and criminal justice organizations across all levels of government together to advise the Attorney General on issues related to interoperability and information sharing. The bill enables the Attorney General to provide funding, technical assistance, and support to the GAC and encourages adoption of its recommendations by state and local jurisdictions throughout the U.S. (H.R. 4970, 3/25/2010)
- ◆ **Creating a National Interoperable First Responder Communications Network:** Cosponsored legislation that would allocate the "D Block" of the 700 MHz spectrum for public safety, thereby enabling first responders to develop and implement a nationwide public safety interoperable mobile broadband network, necessary for securing and defending our communities and the nation. (H.R. 5081, 6/30/2010)
- ◆ **Incentivizing States to Implement Critical DNA Laws:** Lead Republican sponsor of legislation that passed the House which encourages states to meet minimum standards for arrestee DNA collection; providing incentives to states to employ the most sophisticated crime fighting tools available to combat violent crime, save lives, and bring killers to justice while also preserving the privacy and civil liberties of arrestees. (H.R. 4614, 2/24/2010; RC#274, 5/18/2010)
- ◆ **Encouraging Community Partnerships with Law Enforcement:** Successfully passed a resolution recognizing the Celebrate Safe Communities initiative to foster greater cooperation between local law enforcement and the local community to keep families safe. (H.Con.Res. 177, 7/31/2009)
- ◆ **Caring for Our 9/11 First Responders:** Cosponsored legislation to address the vital and unique health care issues affecting the heroes of 9/11 who selflessly helped with the aftermath of the terrorist attacks against the United States. (H.R. 847, 12/16/009)
- ◆ **Improving School Safety:** Successfully passed an amendment to equip schools with the technology to assist law enforcement and protect our nation's youths in the event of a critical emergency or school violence event. The legislation will provide schools the funding necessary to upgrade and implement crucial technology, such as school mapping, surveillance cameras, and other essential security measures which enables law enforcement agencies to quickly assess any critical emergency or violent event, and increases their ability to swiftly respond and save lives. (H. AMDT. 129 to H.R. 2187, 5/13/2009)
- ◆ **Supporting Local Drug & Gang Task Forces:** Lead Republican advocate to restore federal funding for the Byrne Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) program to the full authorized level of \$1.1 billion FY2011 to support multi-jurisdictional efforts to prevent, fight, and prosecute drug and gang-related and violent crime in our communities. Voted for legislation authorizing over \$1 billion annually for Byrne JAG. (RC# 456, 6/25/2008)
- ◆ **Preventing Another Lakewood Tragedy:** Co-authored legislation requiring the U.S. Department of Justice to study whether existing Interstate Compact agreements between states adequately protect the communities that host these offenders. Changes to existing interstate compact rules may be necessary to better protect the public in states that receive offenders from other states. (H.R. 4969, 3/25/2010)

- ◆ **Recognizing School Resource Officers:** Successfully secured more than \$600,000 for School Resource Officers (SRO's) in King County. SRO's are a vital resource to our schools; helping to develop safety and security policies, and teaching classes focusing on crime prevention, substance abuse, and gang resistance. Original Cosponsor of legislation recognizing the services provided by school resource officers in improving the safety and security of schools and communities across the United States. (*H.Res.1554, 7/30/2010*)
- ◆ **Putting More Cops on the Streets:** Stood up to leadership to help secure funding for the COPS program; offering an amendment to restore over \$78 million to the program in FY2006; cosponsor of legislation to reauthorize the COPS program and fighting for full funding now to put more cops on the streets and deploy cutting-edge crime-fighting technologies. (*H.R. 1139, 3/26/2009*)
- ◆ **Eliminating the DNA Backlog:** Cosponsored legislation to help states and local governments increase their lab capacity to more quickly analyze DNA samples collected at crime scenes; helping law enforcement solve cases and take dangerous rapists and other criminals off the streets. (*H.R. 5057, 4/1/008*)
- ◆ **Combating the Gang Epidemic:** Introduced and enacted legislation to identify and target the three international drug gangs that present the greatest threat to the United States and create a gang "most-wanted list;" helping law enforcement create a national strategy to eliminate the gang epidemic plaguing our neighborhoods. (*H.R. 367, 1/10/2007, Public Law 111-8*)
- ◆ **Equipping Law Enforcement with the Tools to Stop Violent Crime:** Introduced legislation to give law enforcement the critical tools and resources needed for preventing and enforcing violent crime; and will strengthen existing law to increase maximum penalties on gun crime and related offenses. (*H.R. 3142, 7/24/2007*)
- ◆ **Hometown Heroes:** Cosponsored an amendment to increase funding for the Public Safety Officers Benefit Administration to reduce the backlog of Hometown Heroes cases of those cops and firefighters dying of heart-attack or stroke. (*RC#728, 7/25/2007*)