



MAJOR CITIES CHIEFS ASSOCIATION

November 16, 2017

The Honorable Chuck Grassley
Chairman
Committee of the Judiciary
U.S. Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Dianne Feinstein
Ranking Member
Committee of the Judiciary
U.S. Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Grassley and Ranking Member Cornyn,

On behalf of the Major Cities Chiefs Association, representing the Nation's largest metropolitan law enforcement agencies, we would like to communicate our support of the "Fix NICS Act of 2017". Communications between the FBI's background check system and reporting Federal and State agencies regarding both criminal and mental health records must be strengthened.

We support efforts to ensure that Federal agencies and States will produce NICS implementation plans and correct current deficiencies that result in persons being cleared who should not be allowed to purchase firearms. Accountability and incentivizing of federal agencies and states is key to the success of a more secure firearms purchasing process.

We also feel that even more can be done to strengthen the criminal and mental health provisions of NICS to ensure that every State reports comprehensive and consistent information. Recent tragedies should help to inform Congress on how to strengthen the definitions and procedures that were intended to protect the public from those who perpetrated recent mass shootings.

Sincerely,

J. Thomas Manger
Chief of Police
Montgomery County Police Department
President, Major Cities Chiefs Association

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