

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

April 26, 2021

The Honorable Matt Cartwright
Chairman
Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice,
Science, and Related Agencies
House Appropriations Committee
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Robert Aderholt
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice,
Science, and Related Agencies
House Appropriations Committee
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Cartwright and Ranking Member Aderholt,

As you consider the Fiscal Year 2022 (FY22) Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Appropriations bill, we urge you to fully fund the Patrick Leahy Bulletproof Vest Partnership (BVP) Grant Program at the authorized level of \$30 million.

The Bulletproof Vest Partnership Grant Program is critical for law enforcement agencies to appropriately equip and protect their officers in the field. Since 1999, the BVP program has awarded more than 13,000 jurisdictions a total of \$522 million in federal funds for the purchase of over one million vests. According to the Government Accountability Office, over 3,000 law enforcement lives have been saved by armored vests since 1987.

We urge you to consider the safety of our brave first responders as you formulate the FY22 Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Appropriations bill. By fully funding this critical program, we can continue to ensure that law enforcement officers have access to these lifesaving resources.

Thank you for your attention to and consideration of this request.

Sincerely,



Bill Pascrell, Jr.
Member of Congress



Brian K. Fitzpatrick
Member of Congress

List of Signatories

/s/ Abigail D. Spanberger
/s/ André Carson
/s/ Andy Kim
/s/ Bill Foster
/s/ Brian Higgins
/s/ Cheri Bustos
/s/ Eleanor Holmes Norton
/s/ Eric A. "Rick" Crawford
/s/ Eric Swalwell
/s/ Jeff Van Drew
/s/ Jenniffer González-Colón
/s/ Josh Gottheimer
/s/ Julia Brownley
/s/ Lucy McBath

/s/ Mark DeSaulnier
/s/ Mikie Sherrill
/s/ Nicole Malliotakis
/s/ Paul A. Gosar, D.D.S.
/s/ Raul Ruiz, M.D.
/s/ Michael Guest
/s/ Ron Kind
/s/ Seth Moulton
/s/ Stacey E. Plaskett
/s/ Steve Stivers
/s/ Tom O'Halleran
/s/ Val B. Demings
/s/ William R. Keating