



November 29, 2023

The Honorable Chuck Grassley  
United States Senate  
135 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Ben Ray Lujan  
United States Senate  
498 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senators Grassley and Lujan,

I write today on behalf of the Peace Officers Research Association of California (PORAC), representing approximately 78,000 public safety members and 955 public safety associations. PORAC is very pleased to support your legislation, the *Improving Law Enforcement Officer Safety and Wellness Through Data Act*, which would increase the categories of information that can be voluntarily reported regarding attacks against law enforcement officers, including the intention and coordination of perpetrators.

In recent years, ambush-style attacks targeting law enforcement officers have increased at an alarming rate. According to statistics released by the FBI's Law Enforcement Officers Killed and Assaulted (LEOKA) program, law enforcement agencies reported that 66,415 officers were assaulted while performing their duties in 2022. Of this number, 33.2% of the officers sustained injuries. LEOKA data has shown an increase in ambushes and attacks on officers in recent years and this is concerning.

While the government collects basic data on these attacks, more information is sorely needed. This legislation seeks to build on existing reporting requirements and expand the government's understanding of these attacks, filling in gaps to better identify motives and help law enforcement officers prepare for, identify, and prevent future anti-police behaviors. Our law enforcement officers are not invincible, and these attacks affect their ability to effectively protect themselves and our communities.

PORAC sincerely appreciates your work on this legislation to protect and support our nation's peace officers. We look forward to working together to advance this legislation in the 118<sup>th</sup> Congress. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call the PORAC Headquarters (916) 928-3777 or contact our legislative advocates at Steptoe & Johnson LLP (202) 429-6457.

Very Truly Yours,  
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