



June 7, 2025

The Honorable Mark Amodei  
Chair, House Appropriations Subcommittee on Homeland Security  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Lauren Underwood  
Ranking Member, House Appropriations Subcommittee on Homeland Security  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Amodei and Ranking Member Underwood:

On behalf of the Major County Sheriffs of America (MCSA) - a professional law enforcement association of elected Sheriffs representing the most populous counties in the nation - I write to express our strong support for sustained federal investment in critical homeland security and law enforcement programs as the House considers the Fiscal Year (FY) 2026 Homeland Security Appropriations measure.

MCSA members lead agencies serving over 100 million Americans and are on the front lines of addressing today's most urgent and complex public safety threats, including violent crime, terrorism, cyberattacks, border-related challenges, and the trafficking of illicit narcotics. While we appreciate your longstanding support for state and local law enforcement grant programs, the evolving nature of these threats requires continued - and in many cases expanded - federal partnership.

The Department of Homeland Security's grant programs - including the Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI), State Homeland Security Grant Program (SHSGP), and Operation Stonegarden - have been instrumental in enhancing border security, improving information sharing, and strengthening preparedness and response capabilities. These programs have built capacity that simply would not exist without federal investment.

We are concerned about the Administration's proposal to reduce funding for UASI and SHSGP and to impose a 25 percent non-federal cost match requirement for both programs. These changes would impose significant burdens on local jurisdictions that are already operating under budget constraints. In many cases, such cost-match requirements would make it impossible for local agencies to maintain current capabilities in areas such as threat prevention, emergency preparedness, and coordinated incident response.

Sustained support for DHS's Office of Intelligence and Analysis (I&A) is also critical. I&A's field-based presence in fusion centers has proven essential to timely intelligence sharing and

coordination in response to threats ranging from domestic and foreign terrorism to cyberattacks and transnational organized crime. These partnerships directly enhance local capacity to detect and prevent violence. Reducing I&A resources or limiting its integration with local law enforcement would weaken our ability to proactively address these threats.

State and local agencies are already shouldering a significant burden in supporting DHS's homeland security mission, often stretching limited budgets to maintain critical capabilities that serve national security objectives. We cannot absorb additional costs through reduced federal funding or new cost-match requirements without compromising the protection our communities and the nation rely on.

We respectfully urge you to sustain and enhance funding for UASI, SHSGP, and Operation Stonegarden; reject proposed cost-match requirements; and support DHS I&A's critical partnership with state and local law enforcement. These programs are foundational to our national security strategy, and adequate federal investment is essential to ensure we can continue fulfilling our shared mission.

Thank you for your continued leadership and commitment to protecting our communities.

Sincerely,



Megan Noland  
Executive Director  
Major County Sheriffs of America

cc:

The Honorable Tom Cole, Chair, House Appropriations Committee

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro, Ranking Member, House Appropriations Committee