



**U.S. Department of Justice**

Office of Legislative Affairs

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*Office of the Assistant Attorney General*

*Washington, D.C. 20530*

The Honorable Richard J. Durbin  
Chairman  
Committee on the Judiciary  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Charles E. Grassley  
Ranking Member  
Committee on the Judiciary  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Mr. Chairman and Senator Grassley:

This letter presents the views of the Department of Justice (Department) on S. 2151, the “Strong Communities Act,” as passed in the Senate on August 1, 2022. The Department supports this bill.

Since 1994, the Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS Office) has invested more than \$14 billion to help advance community policing. The Strong Communities Act amends the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to provide grants from the COPS Office that may be used for local law enforcement recruits to attend schools or academies if the recruits agree to serve in precincts of law enforcement agencies in their communities.

Community policing begins with a commitment to building trust and mutual respect between police and communities. It is critical to public safety, ensuring that all stakeholders work together to address our nation's crime challenges. When police and communities collaborate, they more effectively address underlying issues by changing negative behavioral patterns.

The Honorable Richard J. Durbin  
The Honorable Charles E. Grassley  
Page Two

Thank you for the opportunity to present our views. We hope this information is helpful. Please do not hesitate to contact this office if we may provide additional assistance regarding this matter.

Sincerely,

**CARLOS**  
**URIARTE**



Digitally signed by  
CARLOS URIARTE  
Date: 2022.08.24  
13:40:13 -04'00'

Carlos Felipe Uriarte  
Assistant Attorney General



**U.S. Department of Justice**

Office of Legislative Affairs

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*Office of the Assistant Attorney General*

*Washington, D.C. 20530*

The Honorable Jerrold Nadler  
Chairman  
Committee on the Judiciary  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Jim Jordan  
Ranking Member  
Committee on the Judiciary  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman and Representative Jordan:

This letter presents the views of the Department of Justice (Department) on S. 2151, the “Strong Communities Act,” as passed in the Senate on August 1, 2022. The Department supports this bill.

Since 1994, the Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS Office) has invested more than \$14 billion to help advance community policing. The Strong Communities Act amends the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to provide grants from the COPS Office that may be used for local law enforcement recruits to attend schools or academies if the recruits agree to serve in precincts of law enforcement agencies in their communities.

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The Honorable Jerrold Nadler  
The Honorable Jim Jordan  
Page Two

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Sincerely,

**CARLOS**  
**URIARTE**

Digitally signed by  
CARLOS URIARTE  
Date: 2022.08.24  
13:39:18 -04'00'

Carlos Felipe Uriarte  
Assistant Attorney General



**U.S. Department of Justice**

Office of Legislative Affairs

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*Office of the Assistant Attorney General*

*Washington, D.C. 20530*

The Honorable Gary Peters  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable John Cornyn  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Peters and Senator Cornyn:

This letter presents the views of the Department of Justice (Department) on S. 2151, the “Strong Communities Act,” as passed in the Senate on August 1, 2022. The Department supports this bill.

Since 1994, the Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS Office) has invested more than \$14 billion to help advance community policing. The Strong Communities Act amends the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to provide grants from the COPS Office that may be used for local law enforcement recruits to attend schools or academies if the recruits agree to serve in precincts of law enforcement agencies in their communities.

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Sincerely,

**CARLOS**  
**URIARTE**

Digitally signed by  
CARLOS URIARTE  
Date: 2022.08.24  
13:38:30 -04'00'

Carlos Felipe Uriarte  
Assistant Attorney General