

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

March 13, 2026

The Honorable Hal Rogers
Chairman
Committee on Appropriations
Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice,
Science, and Related Agencies
H-310 the Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Grace Meng
Ranking Member
Committee on Appropriations
Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice,
Science, and Related Agencies.
H-310 the Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Rogers and Ranking Member Meng,

Regional information sharing activities, such as the Regional Information Sharing Systems (RISS) Program, have helped law enforcement agencies across our nation fight crime and terrorism for 50 years. We respectfully ask that regional information sharing activities be funded at \$55 million in the FY2027 Commerce, Justice, and Science and Related Agencies Appropriations Act.

The RISS Program successfully supports law enforcement efforts to combat major crimes, apprehend and prosecute offenders, resolve criminal investigations, and ensure officer and public safety. Through its six regional centers, RISS serves as a force multiplier for more than 11,200 federal, state, local, territorial, and tribal law enforcement agencies in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the U.S. territories. RISS partners with federal agencies to support federal information sharing initiatives and partnerships such as the Federal Bureau of Investigation's National Data Exchange, the Homeland Security Information Network, the Executive Office for the U.S. Attorneys, and the National Motor Vehicle Title Information System.

Over the last ten years, officers leveraging RISS services reported more than \$2.3 billion in narcotics, property, and currency seizures (a 500% return on federal investment) and arrested more than 21,000 offenders. RISS provides investigative assistance, case support, and training on relevant topics such as human trafficking and mental health issues. RISS enhances officer safety through deconfliction, and securely links thousands of criminal justice agencies. RISS provides intelligence sharing using state-of-the-art technology to combat organized crime, violent crime, gang activity, drug activity, hate crimes, the opioid epidemic, human trafficking, identity theft, and other criminal priorities all while promoting officer safety. In addition, federal agencies rely on RISS to support national information sharing initiatives that further strengthen public safety efforts across the United States. It is imperative that programs like RISS be preserved and strengthened.

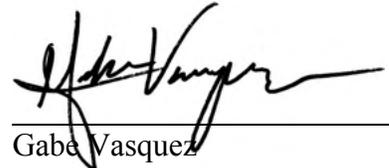
The regional information sharing activities appropriation was significantly decreased from \$45 million in FY2011 to \$27 million in FY2012, despite a majority of House members voting to restore its funding (H.R. 5326, Roll Call Vote #210, 5/8/12). Fifteen years later, Congressional support for regional information sharing activities remains strong. In FY2023, RISS was funded at \$44 million, its highest level since funding was reduced in FY2012, and has remained at this level through FY2026. We applaud this much needed restoration of appropriations, but more can and should be done. In the past decade, the Department of Justice Management and Administrative fees and other reductions have been significant, rising to 11 percent in FY2025, which negatively impacts RISS's net funding and, ultimately, the program's ability to respond to the demand and needs of its members and users.

We, the undersigned Members of Congress, request that you take action to provide regional information sharing activities with an adequate funding level of \$55 million and a reasonable cap on all Department of Justice fees so they will continue to serve our law enforcement agencies as effective tools in combating organized and violent crime and promoting officer safety. Thank you for your consideration of this request.

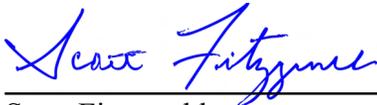
Sincerely,



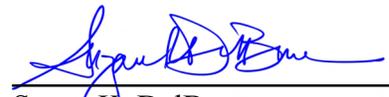
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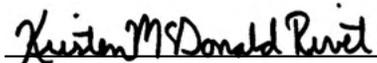
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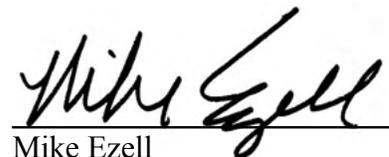
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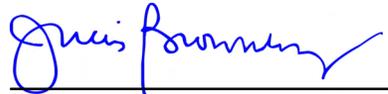
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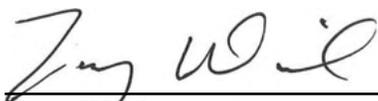
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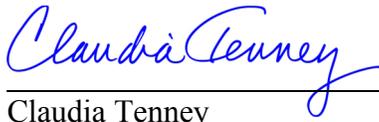
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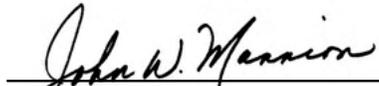
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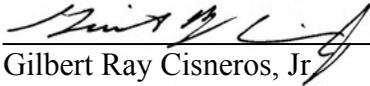
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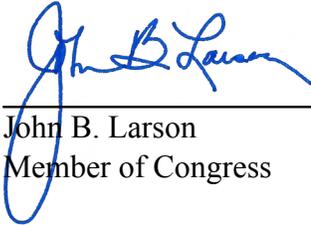
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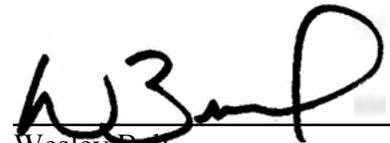
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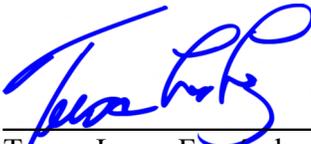
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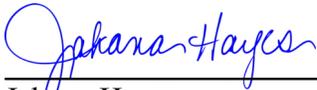
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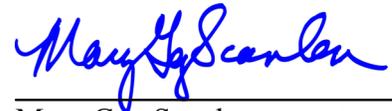
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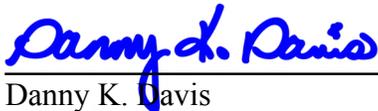
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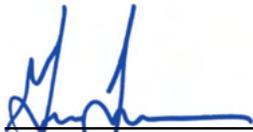
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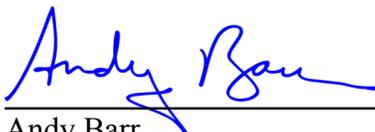
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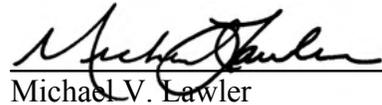
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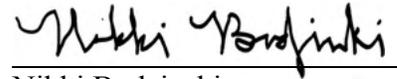
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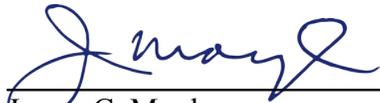
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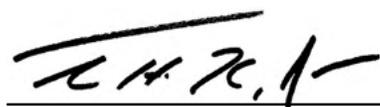
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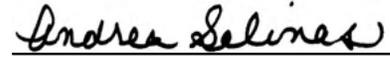
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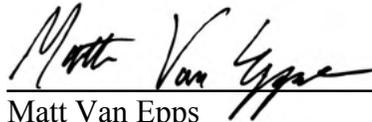
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