

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

April 09, 2019

The Honorable Jerry Moran  
Chairman  
Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science,  
and Related Agencies  
Senate Committee on Appropriations  
142 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Jeanne Shaheen  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science,  
and Related Agencies  
Senate Committee on Appropriations  
125 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Moran and Ranking Member Shaheen:

Thank you for your leadership and past support of the Bulletproof Vest Partnership (BVP) program. As you begin work on the Subcommittee's appropriations legislation for Fiscal Year 2020, we respectfully request that you include standalone funding for the full authorized amount for the Bulletproof Vest Partnership program.

The National Institute of Justice indicates officers are 14 times more likely to suffer a fatal injury in the absence of protective vests. No officer should have to serve without one. According to the Government Accountability Office, bulletproof vests have saved the lives of more than 3,000 law enforcement officers since 1987. Since 1999, the BVP has provided funds to over 13,000 jurisdictions for the purchase of more than 1.3 million lifesaving vests that their departments would not otherwise be able to afford. Last year alone, BVP provided funds to over 4,000 jurisdictions to purchase bulletproof vests.

In recent years, demand for bulletproof vests has surpassed allocated funding. With state and local law enforcement already struggling under significant budget constraints, and the demand for vests at an all-time high, it is imperative that Congress continue to invest in this lifesaving program. Our support is critical to ensuring that both large and small jurisdictions can participate in a program that truly protects those who risk their lives daily for our safety.

Our request is supported by Fraternal Order of Police, National Sheriffs' Association, Major Cities Chiefs Association, Federal Law Enforcement Officers Association, National Tactical Officers Association, National Association of Police Organizations, Sergeants Benevolent Association, International Union of Police Associations, National Narcotics Officers' Associations' Coalition, and the Ohio Fraternal Order of Police.

Bulletproof vests remain one of the primary forms of defense for our uniformed officers. As you weigh priorities for the upcoming fiscal year, we urge you to consider the proven lifesaving effectiveness of the Bulletproof Vest Partnership program by providing robust funding for this important initiative.

Thank you for your consideration of this request and for your leadership on this important matter.

Sincerely,



SHERROD BROWN  
United States Senate



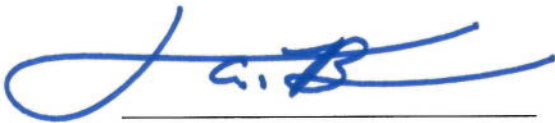
JAMES M. INHOFE  
United States Senate



TAMMY BALDWIN  
United States Senate



RICHARD BLUMENTHAL  
United States Senate



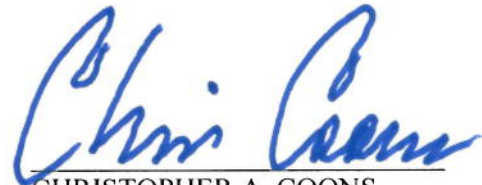
CORY A. BOOKER  
United States Senate



THOMAS R. CARPER  
United States Senate



ROBERT P. CASEY Jr.  
United States Senate



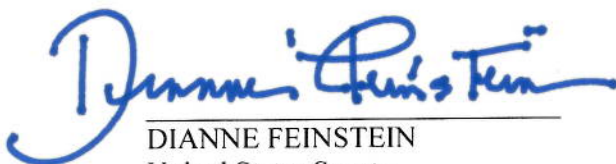
CHRISTOPHER A. COONS  
United States Senate



CATHERINE CORTEZ MASTO  
United States Senate



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ELIZABETH WARREN  
United States Senate

  
SHELDON WHITEHOUSE  
United States Senate

  
RON WYDEN  
United States Senate

**Commerce, Justice and Science Group Letter Table  
CJS\_Brown\_Group\_190409-042809[LetterID 583]**

<b>ID</b>	<b>Request Project Location</b>	<b>Request Project Name</b>
5212	[Title II]/[Department of Justice]/[Office on Justice Programs (OJP)]/[State and Local Law Enforcement Assistance]/[Bulletproof Vest Partnership Program]	Bulletproof Vest Partnership Program

## Appropriations Request Database

<b>Request ID: 5212</b>			
Project Location:	[Title II]/[Department of Justice]/[Office on Justice Programs (OJP)]/[State and Local Law Enforcement Assistance]/[Bulletproof Vest Partnership Program]	Project Name:	Bulletproof Vest Partnership Program
Member/s:	Brown, Sherrod(D-OH); Baldwin, Tammy(D-WI); Blumenthal, Richard(D-CT); Booker, Cory(D-NJ); Carper, Thomas(D-DE); Casey, Robert(D-PA); Coons, Christopher(D-DE); Cortez Masto, Catherine(D-NV); Durbin, Richard(D-IL); Feinstein, Dianne(D-CA); Inhofe, James(R-OK); Klobuchar, Amy(D-MN); Markey, Edward(D-MA); Menendez, Robert(D-NJ); Murphy, Christopher(D-CT); Peters, Gary(D-MI); Reed, Jack(D-RI); Sanders, Bernard(I-VT); Smith, Tina(D-MN); Van Hollen, Chris(D-MD); Warren, Elizabeth(D-MA); Whitehouse, Sheldon(D-RI); Wyden, Ron(D-OR)	Subcommittee:	CJS
Request Type:	Group	Staff Contact:	Shomari Figures shomari_figures@brown.senate.gov 202-224-2645
Justification:	The Bulletproof Vest Partnership has helped law enforcement officers in 13,000 jurisdictions purchase nearly 1.2 million lifesaving vests that their departments would not be able to afford otherwise.		
Proposed Bill Language:		Proposed Report Language:	
Member's Request:	\$0	Member's Request (text):	standalone funding for full authorized amount
Enacted Level:	\$0	President's Request:	\$0
Intended Country:			