

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

November 25, 2025

The Honorable Jared Polis
Governor
State of Colorado
200 E. Colfax Avenue
Denver, CO 80203

Dear Governor Polis,

We received your September 17th response to our calls to address Colorado's crime wave with a second special legislative session. While incredibly disappointed that you, the most powerful elected official in a state with a \$44 billion dollar budget, chose to blame everyone and everything except your own policies and your record – we know that our constituents' lives are too important to play political games with. Coloradans deserve to live free of fear in their own homes and communities without having their very safety turned into a game of "gotcha."

In your response, you specifically cited the need for additional financial resources. There are billions of federal dollars available to law enforcement through avenues such as the 287(g) program and the Bridging Immigration-related Deficits Experienced Nationwide (BIDEN) Reimbursement Fund — that you refuse to take advantage of because of Colorado's sanctuary state status. Nonetheless, we are committed to working in good faith across the aisle to secure the resources Colorado needs to address the issues most pressing to our constituents.

In fact, shortly after your response to our letter, the \$22 billion in Victims of Crime Act funds that you cited were released to Colorado by the Department of Justice (DOJ). We strongly share your sentiment that these funds are critical to meeting the needs of victims in our community, which is why we also support H.R. 909, the Crime Victims Fund Stabilization Act. This bill redirects unobligated funds collected through the False Claims Act to the Crime Victims Fund through Fiscal Year 2029, stabilizing the Crime Victims Fund amidst recent declines and provides the support that district attorneys in Colorado have requested.

Additionally, we recently introduced the bipartisan Combatting Fentanyl Poisonings Act, which earmarks \$15 million a year in DOJ funds to help state and local law enforcement agencies and non-profits stop fentanyl dealers, protect officers in the field and educate young people about the dangers of fentanyl and counterfeit drugs. As you know, Colorado is still in the midst of a severe fentanyl crisis, with the state's drug overdose rates declining at a significantly lower rate than most other states, remaining higher than before the pandemic and costing Coloradans more than \$13 billion a year.

Tragically, a 2024 study found that Colorado had the second highest teen overdose rates in the country, which is why this bill is so critical. It specifically tackles the youth overdose crisis in Colorado by helping law enforcement go after traffickers that use social media to target kids and young adults, while also enabling non-profits to educate families. In short, it directs funding to tackle a problem that is all too

prevalent in Colorado. This is a crisis that has unfortunately been exacerbated by your administration's repeated refusal to address the systemic failures in the current cashless and PR bond system that allows repeat offenders and drug dealers back into our neighborhoods to continue poisoning our communities.

This bill has already garnered the support of several House Democrat colleagues, multiple national organizations, and many Colorado law enforcement groups and figures including Larimer County Sheriff John Feyen, Weld County Steve Reams, the Weld County Chiefs of Police Association, the Denver Police Protective Association, the Colorado Police Protective Association, and the County Sheriffs of Colorado. We would welcome your support and endorsement as well as we fight for safer communities for our constituents in the United States Congress.

Per our previous letter, we continue to be frustrated by the fact that under your administration Colorado has plummeted to the second most dangerous state in the nation. As such, we will continue to prioritize the safety of our constituents, all Coloradans, and all Americans – working across the aisle to achieve tangible and lasting policy solutions. In your previous capacity as chair of the National Governor's Association, you exhorted citizens to "Disagree Better", putting aside toxic political rhetoric in favor of open dialogue in the pursuit of better outcomes. We urge you to continue your commitment to this principle and continue working with us in a collaborative, rather than combative manner to address the issue of public safety – one of the top issues we hear about from the constituents we humbly serve.

Sincerely,



Gabe Evans
Member of Congress



Jeff Crank
Member of Congress



Lauren Boebert
Member of Congress