



# NATIONAL SHERIFFS' ASSOCIATION

**AARON D. KENNARD**  
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May 21, 2013

The Honorable John Barrow  
U. S. House of Representatives  
2202 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Barrow:

I write on behalf of the National Sheriffs' Association, and the more than 3,000 Sheriffs nationwide, to express our support for the bill you plan to introduce which would reauthorize a federal grant program dedicated to school safety technology. As we all have seen in the aftermath of the Newtown tragedy, there is much that can be done to improve the safety of our schools.

Your bill would reauthorize the grant program administered by the Office of Community Oriented Policing Services to allow matching federal funds for: the placement and use of deterrent measure in schools; security assessments; training for personnel and students; and coordination with local law enforcement; as well as add a new funding category for emergency notification and response technologies. These technologies are especially critical in preventing tragedies at our schools and in ensuring quick response when an emergency does occur.

The National Sheriffs' Association thanks you for your efforts in improving school safety. We look forward to working with you on this and many other issues in the future.

Respectfully yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Aaron D. Kennard". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Sheriff (ret.) Aaron D. Kennard  
Executive Director