

## NATIONAL SHERIFFS' ASSOCIATION

December 10, 2013

The Honorable Dianne Feinstein United States Senate 331 Hart Senate Office Building Washington, DC 20510 The Honorable Chuck Grassley United States Senate 135 Hart Senate Office Building Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senators Feinstein and Grassley:

I write on behalf of the National Sheriffs' Association (NSA), and the more than 3,000 elected sheriffs nationwide, to express our support for the *Saving Kids from Dangerous Drugs Act of 2013* (S. 1686), introduced on November 12<sup>th</sup>. This bill will better protect our children from the dangerous effects of controlled substances and do more to ensure that drug dealers who target children are brought to justice.

Sheriffs know how important it is to ensure that children in their communities do not come into contact with controlled substances. However, kids become even more vulnerable when these controlled substances are marketed in deceptive ways that make them more appealing to youth. The *Saving Kids from Dangerous Drugs Act of 2013* will ensure that drug dealers face severe and enhanced penalties if they deliberately market drugs to appeal to children. This includes penalties for combining drugs with candy or beverages, marketing drugs in a similar manner as candy or beverages, and modifying the flavor or coloring of drugs. Your bill sends a clear message to dealers that marketing drugs to children is a serious offense that will be punished severely.

In closing, NSA thanks you for your leadership on the *Saving Kids from Dangerous Drugs Act of 2013*. We applaud your tireless work to protect our nation's children and bring those who target children to justice. Finally, we look forward to working with you on this and many other issues in the future.

Respectfully yours,

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Sheriff (ret.) Aaron D. Kennard Executive Director

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