

NATIONAL SHERIFFS' ASSOCIATION



April 30, 2026

The Honorable Zack Nunn
U.S. House of Representatives
1410 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Nunn:

On behalf of the National Sheriffs' Association (NSA), representing 3,081 sheriffs nationwide, we write to express our support for the H.R. 2978, the Guarding Unprotected Aging Retirees from Deception (GUARD) Act.

Financial fraud, particularly schemes targeting older Americans, has rapidly evolved into one of the most pervasive and complex crimes facing law enforcement today. Sheriffs and their deputies are on the front lines of responding to these crimes, yet often lack the specialized tools, training, and resources necessary to investigate increasingly sophisticated financial fraud schemes. The GUARD Act addresses this critical gap by expanding existing federal grant funding to be used for financial fraud investigations, including hiring personnel, acquiring advanced investigative tools, providing training in emerging technologies such as blockchain analysis, and enhancing victim assistance.

Importantly, the legislation strengthens coordination between federal, state, local, and Tribal law enforcement by authorizing federal agencies to assist with blockchain tracing tools and technical expertise. This collaboration is essential as many of these crimes are transnational in nature and frequently involve organized criminal enterprises.

By equipping sheriffs with the tools and partnerships necessary to combat modern financial crime, this legislation will significantly improve our ability to protect vulnerable populations and hold criminals accountable.

We commend your leadership on this issue and urge Congress to advance the GUARD Act without delay.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chris West".

Sheriff Chris West
Canadian County, OK
President
National Sheriffs' Association

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Justin Smith".

Justin Smith
Executive Director, CEO
National Sheriffs' Association