



**INTERNATIONAL UNION
OF POLICE ASSOCIATIONS
AFL-CIO**

THE ONLY UNION FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS

SAM A. CABRAL
International President

JOHN E. O'KEEFE
International Secretary-Treasurer

February 12, 2016

The Honorable Tom Cotton
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Cotton:

On behalf of the International Union of Police Associations, AFL-CIO, I am proud to endorse your critical legislation, S. 2514, the "**Criminal Consequences of Early Release Act of 2016**". As you know, the IUPA represents more than 100,000 active duty, rank and file law enforcement professionals across this great nation as well as in Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands.

Our members have a very personal interest in any program that puts additional criminals back on the streets they patrol. We have participated in round table studies conducted by the Urban Institute regarding the incarceration rates in this nation. We are skeptical of the notion that our jails and prisons are full of non-violent drug offenders that pose no real risk to our communities. We also do not share the belief that drug offenses are not responsible for violence in our cities and counties.

We believe your bill will answer some very important questions about the wisdom of early release and allow law enforcement and our legislators to accurately assess the effectiveness and cost of early release programs.

We look forward to working with you and your staff to see this vital legislation become law. I can imagine that only those who do not wish to know the facts about early release would oppose it. We will be paying attention to those who do.

Very Respectfully,

Sam A. Cabral
International President