



AMERICAN CORRECTIONAL  
ASSOCIATION



AMERICAN PROBATION AND  
PAROLE ASSOCIATION



February 12, 2024

The Honorable Charles Schumer  
Majority Leader  
U.S. Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Mike Johnson  
Speaker  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Mitch McConnell  
Minority Leader  
U.S. Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Hakeem Jeffries  
Minority Leader  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Majority Leader Schumer, Speaker, Johnson, Minority Leader McConnell, and Minority Leader Jeffries:

As leading national correctional organizations, we write to express our strong support for the reauthorization of the Undetectable Firearms Act (UFA), a bipartisan piece of legislation which President Reagan signed into law in 1988. The UFA prohibits the manufacture, import, transfer, or possession of firearms made from plastic and other materials that are undetectable in a metal detector or an x-ray machine. Reauthorization of the UFA would ensure that the 35-year restriction on these firearms continues past its current expiry of March 8, 2024, and would prevent significant public safety and security risks that would follow a lapse in the UFA.

Together, our organizations represent over 400,000 correctional professionals across the country, as well as all executive-level appointed correctional leaders who manage the operations of our nation's major correctional systems. We collectively oversee approximately eight million incarcerated individuals, probationers, and parolees, and security checkpoints play an integral role in keeping our facilities safe and secure.

As you may know, corrections, like many other industries, is experiencing a workforce shortage that poses increasing challenges to an already difficult job. Correctional staff need every tool at their disposal to safeguard our correctional institutions, including the UFA. Our members are deeply concerned by the substantial safety and security risks that would come with a lapse in restrictions of undetectable firearms. The possibility of undetectable firearms entering our facilities would significantly impede upon our members' ability to keep our prisons and jails safe and would put countless lives at risk.

We strongly urge you to reauthorize this important legislation and to ensure the safety of hundreds of thousands of correctional professionals, along with the millions of people whom our members tirelessly work to supervise. Thank you for your leadership, and please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Correctional Leaders Association  
American Correctional Association  
American Jail Association  
American Probation and Parole Association  
International Community Justice Association