SEARCH Membership Group Meeting

Government Affairs Update

January 2024
New Orleans, LA
White House Office of Gun Violence Prevention Shares Background on Priorities

President Joe Biden to Establish First-Ever White House Office of Gun Violence Prevention, To Be Overseen by Vice President Kamala Harris

whitehouse.gov
Briefing Overview

- Resources
- Bipartisan Safer Communities Act Implementation
- 118th Congress (Current State of Play)
- FY 2024 Spending Negotiations
- Firearms Screening
- Expungement & Sealing of Criminal History Records/Marijuana Policy
- AI, Data Privacy, & Investigations
- Other Public Safety Issues
While We Would Love to Cover
EVERYTHING
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The blog includes detailed information on priority topics we’re going to cover today.
Bipartisan Safer Communities Act (BSCA) Implementation
BSCA Focus Areas

• SEARCH is focusing on the following efforts to implement BSCA:
  – Enhanced background checks for individuals under age 21
  – Updated definition of “misdemeanor crime of domestic violence”
  – Resources to states and localities, including NCHIP supplemental funding
SEARCH BSCA Engagement

• SEARCH BSCA Implementation Briefing
  – 150+ attendees!

• SEARCH BSCA Implementation White Paper

• SEARCH “NICS 101” Podcast

• SEARCH Engagement with the Administration and Capitol Hill on BSCA Implementation Efforts
118th Congress
(Current State of Play)
Our Daily Ask to Congress

WHAT IS THIS? WHAT'S HAPPENING?
FY 2024
Spending Negotiations
Next Steps Unclear

Shutdown averted, lawmakers fret about next looming deadline

thehill.com
### House/Senate Funding Recommendations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>FY 2023 Enacted Level</th>
<th>Senate FY 2024 (Approved by Full Senate Appropriations Committee)</th>
<th>House FY 2024 (Approved by House CJS Subcommittee)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NCHIP</td>
<td>$70 million</td>
<td>$64 million</td>
<td>$69.5 million</td>
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<tr>
<td>NARIP</td>
<td>$25 million</td>
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**Plus $40 million BSCA NCHIP supplemental funds**
Firearms Screening
Expanding Background Checks

• Continued focus on BSCA implementation
  – Including new definition of who “is engaged in the business of dealing firearms”
Supreme Court to Decide
Gun Rights Case

Justices appear wary of striking down domestic-violence gun restriction
scotusblog.com
Expungement & Sealing of Criminal History Records / Marijuana Policy
Clean Slate Act

– Requires “automatic” sealing of certain federal criminal records
– Establishes new procedures to allow individuals to petition to seal records for other nonviolent offenses that are not “automatically sealed”
– Holds strong bipartisan support
Fresh Start Act

– Authorizes NCHIP to provide grants to states to “automate” their criminal records programs
– Requires state recipients to report re: individuals eligible for expungement/sealing; number of expungements/seals disaggregated by race, ethnicity, and gender
– Holds strong bipartisan support
Marijuana Policy (Capitol Hill)

- **SAFER Banking Act**
  - Enables cannabis businesses access to banking system

- **HOPE Act**
  - Authorizes grants for state/local expungement efforts for non-violent marijuana offenses

- **GRAM Act**
  - Exempts gun ownership restrictions for cannabis users in legalized states
Marijuana Policy (Administration)

DEA tells Congress it's considering easing marijuana restrictions
axios.com
AI, Tech, Data Privacy, & Investigations
AI, Tech, & Data Privacy

- Bipartisan group of lawmakers to draft proposal addressing AI
- Senate Judiciary subcommittee hearing on “AI in Criminal Investigations and Prosecutions”
- Senate Judiciary “Big Tech” Hearing
  - Focus on stopping child exploitation online
- Legislation
  - American Data Privacy Protection Act
  - Fourth Amendment is Not for Sale Act
- Administration (May 2022 Executive Order on Policing)
  - DOJ and DHS collecting comments to assess law enforcement agency use of facial recognition and other biometric technology
Investigative Capacity Building

• **VICTIM Act**
  – Grants for local LE to build violent crime investigative capacity

• **Debbie Smith Act**
  – Grants to state and local governments to improve and expand the collection and analysis of DNA evidence

• **Project Safe Neighborhoods Reauthorization**
  – Expand authorized use of funds
Other Public Safety Issues
Fifth Amendment Integrity Restoration Act (FAIR Act)

• The FAIR Act would eliminate the equitable sharing program

– Passed the House Judiciary Committee unanimously on June 14, 2023
New Action: Biden’s Executive Order on Policing

Justice Department creates database to track records of misconduct by federal law enforcement

apnews.com
Questions

Ben Bawden  
bbawden@bbm-dc.com

Melissa Nee  
mnee@bbm-dc.com