

SEARCH Membership Group Meeting

Government Affairs Update

January 2024
New Orleans, LA



White House Office of Gun Violence Prevention Shares Background on Priorities



THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

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

[whitehouse.gov](https://www.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



FY 2024

Spending Negotiations

Next Steps Unclear



Shutdown averted, lawmakers fret about next looming deadline

thehill.com

House/Senate Funding Recommendations

	FY 2023 Enacted Level	Senate FY 2024 (Approved by Full Senate Appropriations Committee)	House FY 2024 (Approved by House CJS Subcommittee)
NCHIP	\$70 million	\$64 million	\$69.5 million
NARIP	\$25 million	\$25 million	\$25.5 million

****Plus \$40 million BSCA NCHIP
supplemental funds****

Firearms Screening

Expanding Background Checks

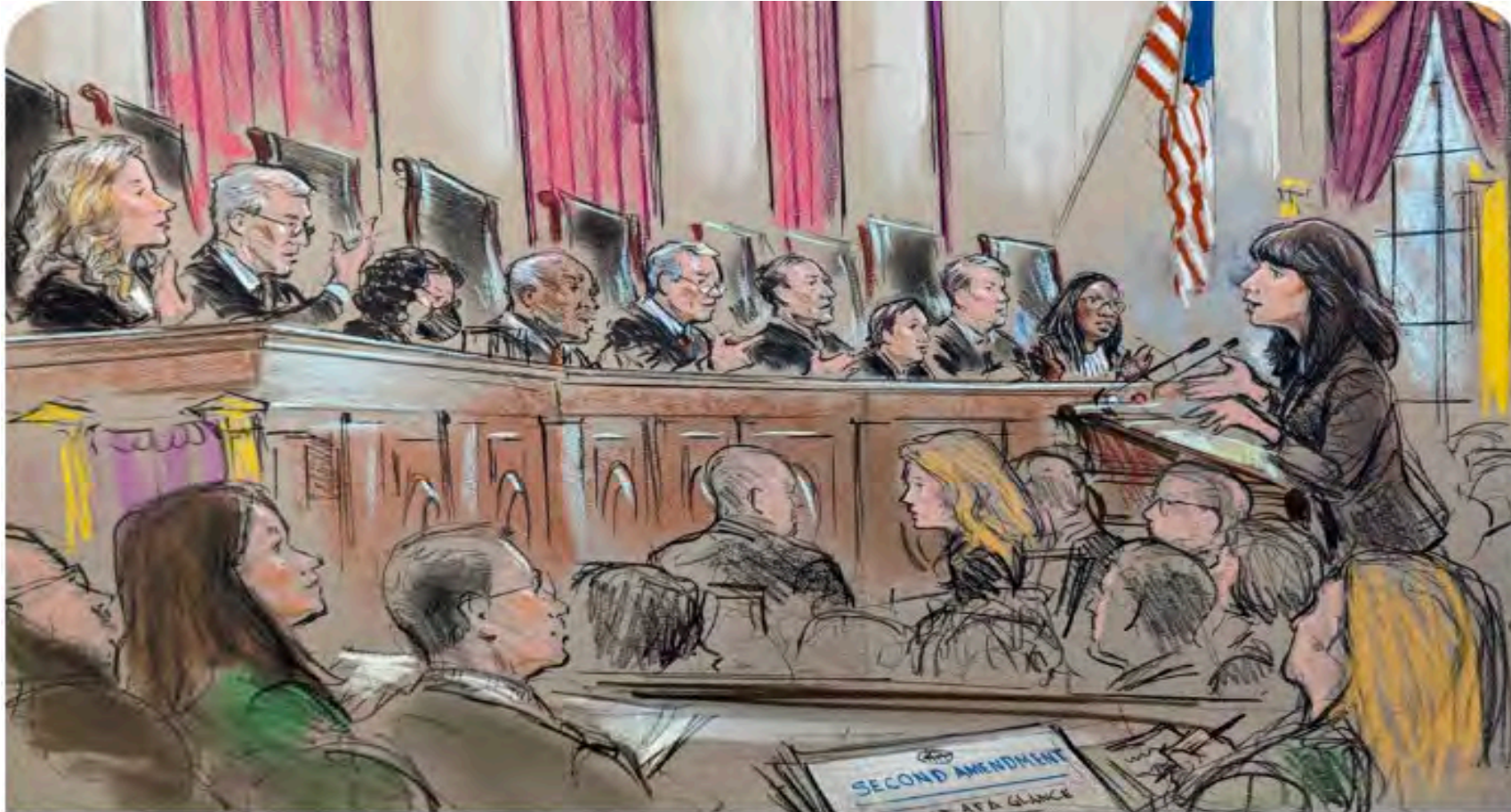
- **Continued focus on BSCA implementation**
 - Including new definition of who “is engaged in the business of dealing firearms”



Biden Administration Proposes Expanding Background Checks on Gun Sales

[nytimes.com](https://www.nytimes.com)

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](https://www.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*



August 24, 2023

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy
Speaker
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Hakeem Jeffries
Democratic Leader
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Speaker McCarthy and Leader Jeffries,

We write on behalf of the undersigned organizations to express our strong opposition to H.R. 1525, the *Fifth Amendment Integrity Restoration (FAIR) Act of 2023*, as passed by the House Judiciary Committee in June. This legislation, as currently drafted, will benefit criminals and criminal organizations and negatively impact the ability of law enforcement to protect the communities we serve, especially from drug trafficking activity. Violent crime in the United States has skyrocketed over the past few years, drug overdose rates are at record highs, and other threats facing American communities are becoming increasingly complex. H.R. 1525 would reduce cooperation between federal, state, and local law enforcement at a time when this collaboration needs to be expanded.

New Action: Biden's Executive Order on Policing



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

apnews.com

Questions

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