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**Peace Officers Research Association of California Responds to President Biden's
State of the Union Address**

Sacramento, CA — Today, President Joe Biden delivered his first State of the Union address during which he highlighted his strategy to make our communities safer and reduce gun crime. The President urged Congress to act on his \$350 million budget request to more than double the size of the [Department of Justice's COPS community policing grant program](#). The call for bi-partisan congressional action comes as the nation continues to struggle with the [devastating impacts of rising crime and violence](#).

The Peace Officers Research Association of California (PORAC), the largest statewide law enforcement association in the nation, offered the following statement from President Brian Marvel on the address:

"The best way to approach reforms to policing is on a bipartisan basis through congressional action, and we applaud the President's call for Congress to significantly increase the budget for the COPS grant program. This program is essential to local agencies and helps to advance the practice of community policing to build trust and mutual respect between police and communities. We know that passing bi-partisan police reform measures and enacting legislation to modernize law enforcement is achievable, but it requires patience, genuine listening, collaboration, and last but arguably most important, the funding to see these policies through."

"PORAC has been calling for increased grant funding to support our nation's law enforcement profession for years, and it is especially needed right now, as officers seek to protect our families and communities from a dramatic increase in crime and violence. Lawmakers are already hard at work introducing meaningful initiatives, including Rep. Josh Gottheimer's [Invest in Law Enforcement Act \(H.R.6448\)](#), which has been endorsed by PORAC and would authorize critical funding for small, local departments throughout the country to ensure they have adequate resources to keep their communities safe. PORAC is committed to continuing to advocate for increased resources for law enforcement as we look to address the nation's rising crime crisis and ensure our officers can do their jobs safely and effectively."

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About the Peace Officers Research Association of California:

The Peace Officers Research Association of California (PORAC) was incorporated in 1953 as a professional federation of local, state and federal law enforcement agencies. PORAC represents over 75,000 public safety members and over 930 associations, making it the largest law enforcement organization in California and the largest statewide association in the nation.