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United States Senate

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COMMITTEE ON
RULES AND ADMINISTRATION
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6325

June 29, 2021

The Honorable Patrick Leahy
Chairman
Senate Committee on Appropriations
S-128, U.S. Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Richard Shelby
Vice Chairman
Senate Committee on Appropriations
S-128, U.S. Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Jack Reed
Chairman
Senate Committee on Appropriations
Subcommittee on the Legislative Branch
S-128, U.S. Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Mike Braun
Ranking Member
Senate Committee on Appropriations
Subcommittee on the Legislative Branch
S-128, U.S. Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Leahy, Vice Chairman Shelby, Chairman Reed and Ranking Member Braun:

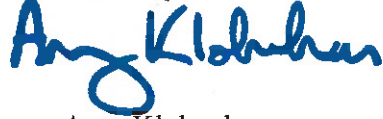
As Chairwoman of the Committee on Rules and Administration, I write to thank you for your work to provide critical resources in response to the January 6th insurrection. As you prepare emergency security supplemental appropriations legislation, I respectfully urge you to include sufficient funding for mental health and trauma services for U.S. Capitol Police officers.

On January 6th, the men and women of the U.S. Capitol Police were left to defend not only those in the Capitol, but our democracy itself – and they performed heroically under unimaginable circumstances, tragically suffering many injuries and loss of life. The joint report issued by the Rules and Homeland Security Committees identified a number of needed reforms to Department practices and procedures, including reforms to better support Capitol Police officers. I have also heard directly from rank and file officers who are continuing to deal with the aftermath of the events of January 6th, including the deaths of Officer Brian Sicknick and Officer Howie Liebengood following the attack, as well as the death of Officer Billy Evans while protecting the Capitol's North Barricade on April 2. The morale of the brave officers who defended our democracy has been a particularly significant concern, and according to the Capitol Police Labor Committee, more than 70 officers have resigned or retired since January 6th.

Because it is imperative that Capitol Police officers have access to needed mental health services, I urge you to include \$4.411 million in funding for mental health and trauma support in the emergency security supplemental appropriations bill, which is the same level of funding in the House-passed bill. I also ask that the bill include the provision from the House bill renaming the existing Capitol Police wellness program the Howard C. "Howie" Liebengood Center for Wellness in memory of Officer Liebengood.

Thank you for your consideration of this important issue as you complete your work on the emergency security supplemental appropriations legislation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Amy Klobuchar". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping "A" and "K".

Amy Klobuchar
United States Senator