



NATIONAL DISTRICT
ATTORNEYS ASSOCIATION
THE VOICE OF AMERICA'S PROSECUTORS



The Honorable John Thune
Majority Leader
The United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Chuck Schumer
Minority Leader
The United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

September 14, 2026

Dear Majority Leader Thune and Minority Leader Schumer,

On behalf of the National District Attorneys Association (NDAA), I write to express our strong support for the Count the Crimes to Cut Act. As the Senate resumes its session work this fall, we respectfully urge Congress to advance this bipartisan legislation and for it to be signed into law.

NDAA is the oldest and largest national organization representing state and local prosecutors in the United States. As a nonpartisan, nonprofit association, NDAA provides training, technical assistance, and resources to prosecutors in their pursuit of justice. Our members are committed to promoting public safety, protecting victims, and ensuring confidence in the judicial system.

Transparency and accountability are foundational principles of the American justice system. For laws to be respected and enforced fairly, they must be identifiable, understandable, and accessible to the public. Criminal provisions are scattered throughout federal statutes and regulations, creating unnecessary complexity for policymakers, practitioners, businesses, and ordinary citizens alike. These challenges undermine public understanding of the law and make informed legislative oversight more difficult.

The Count the Crimes to Cut Act provides a solution by requiring the Department of Justice and federal regulatory agencies to identify and catalog federal criminal offenses, their elements, applicable penalties, mens rea requirements, and historical enforcement data. Public access to this information would benefit prosecutors, defense attorneys, judges, legislators, researchers, regulated entities, and the public at large.

Importantly, this legislation does not repeal any existing criminal laws. Rather, it provides Congress and the public with the information necessary to better understand the current scope of federal criminal liability and evaluate whether existing statutes remain necessary.

NDAA appreciates your leadership on this important issue and your commitment to improving public understanding of federal criminal law. We look forward to continuing to work with you to advance this legislation and strengthen confidence in our justice system.

Sincerely,

Nelson Bunn, Executive Director, NDAA