



NATIONAL DISTRICT
ATTORNEYS ASSOCIATION
THE VOICE OF AMERICA'S PROSECUTORS

The Honorable Mike Lee
U.S. Senate
363 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Christopher Coons
U.S. Senate
218 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

March 12, 2026

Dear Senators Lee and Coons:

On behalf of the National District Attorneys Association (NDAA), I write to express our strong support of S.3868/H.R.2159, the Count the Crimes to Cut Act. This bipartisan legislation is an important step towards improving transparency and accountability within the federal criminal justice system.

NDAA is the oldest and largest national organization representing state and local prosecutors in the nation. NDAA is a non-partisan, non-profit membership association that provides training, technical assistance, and resources to prosecutors to aid in their pursuit of justice. With over seven-thousand members, NDAA's mission is to be the voice of America's prosecutors and to support their efforts to protect the rights of individuals and the safety of communities.

Prosecutors at the federal, state, and local level are all in a profession that prioritizes accountability. To ensure accountability, criminal statutes need to be accessible, clear, and understood by the public to allow prosecutors to uphold the rule of law. The current federal criminal code is distributed across Title 18, several other statutory titles, and an extensive body of regulations, many of which can be difficult to locate and interpret. This lack of clarity can undermine the confidence, fairness and predictability of the justice system in the eyes of the communities we serve. Attorneys and Judges should not be the only citizens that understand the laws we are all to follow.

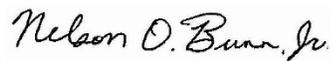
The Count the Crimes to Cut Act addresses this issue by requiring federal agencies, including the Department of Justice, to catalog every federal criminal statutory and regulatory offense in a single, publicly accessible database. In addition to providing a list of the offenses, the bill requires key insight like the number of prosecutions for the offense brought by the agency for the past 15 years. This invaluable information will not only bring transparency to the criminal statutes themselves, but also in how the agencies are enforcing, or not enforcing current law.

Individuals and businesses cannot comply with laws they can't reasonably identify and understand. The passage of this legislation would be a much-needed update to the federal criminal justice system by creating a comprehensive mapping of federal criminal liability. This transparency will benefit both practitioners and the public. The Count the Crimes to Cut Act will

also provide Congress and federal agencies with a foundation of information to reform arbitrary criminal code, eliminate obsolete sections, and fine tune overly broad statutes.

NDAA appreciates your leadership in providing greater transparency and coherence to federal criminal law. We look forward to working with you to advance this important legislation. Thank you for your commitment to strengthening the justice system and supporting the work of prosecutors across the nation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Nelson O. Bunn, Jr.".

Nelson Bunn
Executive Director
National District Attorneys Association