PROTECTING, LEADING & UNITING SINCE 1893
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To whom it may concern:

The Florida Sheriffs Association writes in support of S. 5644, legislation introduced by Senator Ashley Moody to amend the Bank Secrecy Act to exempt transactions involving cash reward payments by crime stopper organizations from certain currency transaction reporting requirements.

Crime Stoppers organizations play an important role in assisting law enforcement by providing members of the public with a safe and anonymous means of reporting information about criminal activity. Cash rewards are an important component of these programs and can encourage individuals with information to come forward without compromising their anonymity.

Florida sheriffs have seen firsthand the value of Crime Stoppers programs in generating information that assists law enforcement investigations and helps identify offenders. However, federal reporting requirements applicable to certain cash transactions can create unnecessary obstacles for Crime Stoppers organizations attempting to provide anonymous rewards. S. 5644 would address this issue while preserving the ability of Crime Stoppers organizations to operate effectively and support law enforcement.

The Florida Sheriffs Association supports efforts to strengthen the partnership between Crime Stoppers organizations and law enforcement and believes S. 5644 would help ensure that these organizations can continue providing an important resource to sheriffs and the communities they serve.

We respectfully support S. 5644 and urge Congress to advance this legislation.

Sincerely,

Sheriff Billy Woods
President
Florida Sheriffs Association