



**National District Attorneys Association**  
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June 19<sup>th</sup>, 2019

The Honorable Michael D. Crapo  
Chairman, Committee on Banking  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Sherrod C. Brown  
Ranking Member, Committee on Banking  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Crapo & Ranking Member Brown,

On behalf of the National District Attorneys Association (NDAA), the largest prosecutor organization representing 2,500 elected and appointed District Attorneys across the United States as well as 40,000 Assistant District Attorneys, I write regarding beneficial ownership legislation.

NDAA continues to support legislative efforts that provide beneficial ownership information to state and local law enforcement agencies. The need for the collection of this ownership information is critical to law enforcement investigations into organized transnational criminal operations, terrorism financing and other unlawful activity. On July 12, 2018, the U.S. Secretary of the Treasury, Steven T. Mnuchin, called on Congress to find a way to facilitate the collection of this information “in the next six months,” and stated further, “I don't want to be coming back here next year and [not] have this solved.”

As end users of evidence collected throughout the investigative process, it is imperative that prosecutors have as much information as possible in order to determine the best course of action for prosecuting an individual or entity that has committed a crime. Beneficial ownership data collection is vital to this effort, and law enforcement and prosecutors must have lawful access to that information. Any approach to beneficial ownership that limits law enforcement's access to this data is inadequate to address the threats caused by criminal organizations operating in the United States through shell corporations.

We appreciate your willingness to hold a hearing on this landmark issue and look forward to working with your staff to move beneficial ownership legislation forward.

Sincerely,

Jonathan Blodgett  
President