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National FOP Claims Victory on Senate Budget *Retirement Benefit Cuts Absent in House-Passed Senate Budget*

Chuck Canterbury, National President of the Fraternal Order of Police, said that the Congressional budget, as amended by the Senate and passed by the House yesterday, did not include extensive cuts to Federal retirement benefits that were part of the original House resolution.

“We are very pleased that Congress responded to our concerns about the impact that cutting these benefits would have on Federal law enforcement,” said Canterbury. “That said, we do have to be on our guard as this latest vote is only part of the process and our benefits remain vulnerable.”

The House and Administration budget proposals included instructions which would have made significant reductions in the retirement benefits for all Federal employees, including law enforcement officers. The report language of the Senate-passed resolution was not yet available, but reliable reports indicate that the FOP’s concerns were heard and that no harmful changes to Federal law enforcement retirement were included in the final budget language.

“There is a long road ahead and we must be vigilant, but I believe we’ve won a significant victory on this budget this week,” said Canterbury.

The Fraternal Order of Police is the largest law enforcement labor organization in the United States with more than 330,000 members.