



NATIONAL FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE®

328 MASSACHUSETTS AVE., N.E.
WASHINGTON, DC 20002
PHONE 202-547-8189 • FAX 202-547-8190

CHUCK CANTERBURY
NATIONAL PRESIDENT

JAMES O. PASCO, JR.
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
13 SEPTEMBER 2017**

**CONTACT: JIM PASCO
(202) 547-8189**

FOP PREVAILS IN FIGHT TO SAVE HIRING PROGRAM

Chuck Canterbury, National President of the Fraternal Order of Police, applauded the leadership of Representatives William J. Pascrell, Jr. (D-NJ) and David G. Reichert (R-WA) and thanked them for introducing an amendment to add \$100 million to hire State, local and tribal law enforcement officers to the appropriations bill that funds the U.S. Department of Justice.

“As co-chairmen of the House Law Enforcement Caucus, Representatives Reichert and Pascrell have been at the forefront on the critical law enforcement and officer safety issues,” Canterbury said. “They have been our continued champions in defending the COPS hiring program.”

The amendment, H. Amdt. 109A, was offered to H.R. 3354, a placeholder bill that will serve as a vehicle for eight of the remaining appropriations bills to be considered by the House, was adopted by voice vote. The amendment provides \$100 million for the hiring program administered by the Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) within the U.S. Department of Justice.

“This was a very important amendment to law enforcement as the hiring was zeroed out and eliminated in the Committee-passed bill,” Canterbury said. “The fact that the House unanimously rejected eliminating this program is heartening, but we still have work to do.”

In an on the floor exchange with Representative Reichert, Representative John A. Culberson (R-TX), Chairman of the Appropriation Committee’s Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies, acknowledged the value of the hiring program, stating:

I recognize the significant positive impact the COPS Hiring program has had and continues to have on communities across the United States, especially given the staffing shortages and current issues facing our nation’s law enforcement... I will work with [Rep. Reichert] to fund COPS in conference.

The House is expected to finish its work on H.R. 3354 today after which the bill will be submitted to the Senate for further action. It is likely, however, that this legislation will not advance and that a continuing resolution, or CR, will be adopted in the weeks to come.

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