



NATIONAL FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE®

328 MASSACHUSETTS AVENUE, NE
WASHINGTON, DC 20002
PHONE 202-547-8189 • FAX 202-547-8190

CHUCK CANTERBURY
NATIONAL PRESIDENT

JAMES O. PASCO, JR.
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

5 March 2019

The Honorable David P. Joyce
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Representative Joyce,

I am writing on behalf of the members of the Fraternal Order of Police to advise you of our support for your bill, H.R. 1528, the “Comprehensive Opioid Program Extension (COPE) Act.”

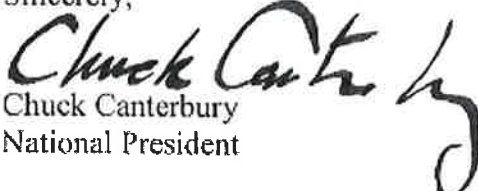
This legislation will reauthorize the comprehensive opioid abuse grant program to provide more resources for communities battling the opioid epidemic across the United States. Recognizing the severity of this drug crisis, the “COPE Act” increases the authorization to \$400 million for each fiscal year through 2024.

In 2016, Congress authorized \$103 million per year under the Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act (CARA), which was supported by the FOP. Later this amount was increased to \$330 million per year, which led to the creation of an alternative to incarceration by implementing evidence-based interventions to divert individuals with a substance abuse disorder into treatment, when it was appropriate.

At a time where, on average, 130 Americans die every day from an opioid overdose, we should increase our support for programs with demonstrable success. These programs will help communities by enhancing law enforcement efforts to combat illegal distribution of opioids, providing training and resources for public safety officers on opioid overdose reversal drugs and devices, and improving collaboration between State criminal justice agencies and substance abuse agencies in order to enhance efforts to combat opioid abuse.

On behalf of the more than 345,000 members of the Fraternal Order of Police, I am proud to offer our support for this legislation. If I can be of any further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me or my Executive Director, Jim Pasco, in my Washington office.

Sincerely,


Chuck Canterbury
National President

—BUILDING ON A PROUD TRADITION—

