



NATIONAL FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE®

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CHUCK CANTERBURY
NATIONAL PRESIDENT

JAMES O. PASCO, JR.
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

4 December 2017

The Honorable Paul D. Ryan
Speaker of the House
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Nancy P. Pelosi
Minority Leader
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Kevin O. McCarthy
Majority Leader
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Steny H. Hoyer
Minority Leader
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Speaker and Representatives McCarthy, Pelosi, and Hoyer,

I am writing on behalf of the Fraternal Order of Police to advise you of our strong support for H.R. 4477, the “Fix NICS Act” as reported by the House Committee on the Judiciary.

Our nation’s firearms laws are designed to keep firearms out of the hands of criminals and every year, thousands of firearms sales are blocked because the attempted purchaser failed a background check run by the National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS). Unfortunately, recent events have shown us that Federal agencies and State governments have too often failed to upload all relevant information to the NICS, allowing dangerous individuals and violent criminals to obtain firearms.

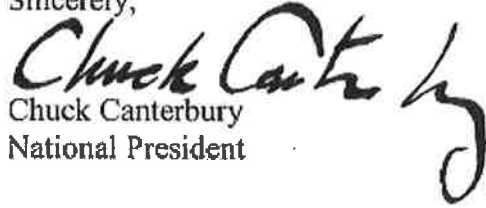
This failure to upload all relevant data to NICS had tragic consequences in several mass shooting events. The perpetrator in the horrific shooting in Sutherland Springs, Texas should never have been able to lawfully purchase a firearm—the system failed and with catastrophic results. In this case, and potentially others, persons who were prohibited from obtaining a firearm passed the NICS background check because their criminal and mental health records were not uploaded to the system.

This legislation will require Federal agencies and States to produce NICS implementation plans focused on uploading required information to the background check system. It establishes measures to verify the accuracy of the records and also creates a domestic abuse and violence prevention initiative to ensure States have adequate resources to comply with existing law. It will also hold Federal agencies accountable if they fail to upload relevant records to the background check system and reauthorize key programs within the NICS to ensure that firearms stay out of the hands of those who are prohibited from obtaining them.

— BUILDING ON A PROUD TRADITION —

On behalf of the more than 330,000 members of the Fraternal Order of Police, we are proud to support this bill. Thank you for your leadership on law enforcement issues and if I can be of any further assistance to you, please do not hesitate to contact me or my Senior Advisor, Jim Pasco, in my Washington office.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Chuck Canterbury". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style. The first name "Chuck" is written in a larger, more prominent script, and "Canterbury" follows in a similar but slightly smaller script. The signature is positioned to the right of the typed name and title.

Chuck Canterbury
National President

cc: The Honorable Robert W. Goodlatte, Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary
The Honorable Jerrold L. Nadler, Acting Ranking Member, Committee on the Judiciary