



NATIONAL FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE®

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CHUCK CANTERBURY
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14 March 2018

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Majority Leader
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Charles E. Schumer
Minority Leader
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senators McConnell and Schumer,

I am writing on behalf of the Fraternal Order of Police to urge the United States Senate to consider and pass S. 2135, the "Fix NICS Act," before the upcoming recess.

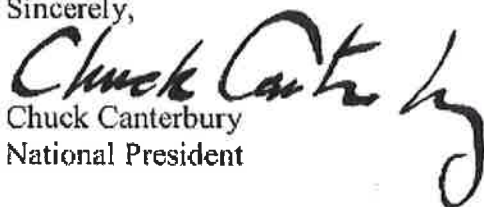
The legislation has 69 cosponsors and the broad support of the law enforcement community. We know that thousands of firearms sales are blocked because the attempted purchaser failed a background check run by the National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS). However, recent events have showed 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. Persons who are prohibited by law from obtaining a firearm are too often able to pass a 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 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.

On behalf of the more than 335,000 members of the Fraternal Order of Police, we believe the Senate should act to take up this bill and pass it prior to the next recess. The need is real and we believe the votes are there for a clean version of this legislation. 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,


Chuck Canterbury
National President

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