



NATIONAL FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE®

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CHUCK CANTERBURY
NATIONAL PRESIDENT

24 April 2015

JAMES O. PASCO, JR.
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The Honorable John A. Boehner
Speaker of the House
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

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

Dear Mr. Speaker and Representative Pelosi,

I am writing on behalf of the members of the Fraternal Order of Police to advise you of our strong opposition to H.R. 1137, the "Paid for Progress Act," which would slash by 8.7% the pay of certain Federal employees and H.R. 1230, the "Government Employee Pension Reform Act," which would change the formula for determining pension benefits for civilian Federal employees from the best-earning three years to the best-earning five years of service.

Both of these measures are further examples of some Members of Congress trying to balance the books on the backs of Federal employees, who often live, work and protect us in one of the most expensive metropolitan regions in the country—Washington, D.C. It is not right and Congress should reject such attempts. Indeed, the FOP will be working hard to ensure these bills are not considered.

South Carolina ranks 42nd in median household income, yet Representative Price (R-SC), sponsor of H.R. 1137, proposes to slash Federal employees in his State and around the country by a considerable sum. I note with irony that Arkansas, home to Representative Westerman (R-AR), the sponsor of H.R. 1230, is described by CBS as the worst State to retire to and is 47th in terms of average income per household. How can we take seriously their proposals on wage and retirement issues? It seems as if neither of these two Members are working to improve the circumstances of their constituents, but rather to bring everyone down to their level.

In the unlikely event that these bills are considered by Congress, the FOP will work for their defeat and in the even more implausible event that they are enacted, we will urge the President to veto them as soon as they are received. The Federal government needs to do more, much more, to support its employees, not seek to tear them down and jeopardize the financial security of their families to squeeze a few extra tax dollars to fund a politician's pet project.

On behalf of the more than 330,000 members of the Fraternal Order of Police, I thank you both for your consideration of our views on these issues. If I can provide any additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me or Executive Director Pasco in my Washington office.

Sincerely,


Chuck Canterbury
National President