



# NATIONAL FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE®

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**CHUCK CANTERBURY**  
NATIONAL PRESIDENT

**JAMES O. PASCO, JR.**  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

1 August 2016

The Honorable John R. Thune  
Chairman  
Committee on Commerce, Science  
and Transportation  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Bill Nelson  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Commerce, Science  
and Transportation  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Thune and Senator Nelson,

I am writing on behalf of the members of the Fraternal Order of Police to advise you of our opposition to H.R. 5636, the “National Institute of Standards and Technology Campus Security Act.”

This legislation seeks to replace the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) Police Services Group, which is comprised of fully sworn law enforcement officers, with private police contractors and/or hired security companies. It is unfair and dangerous to leave the trust and safety of the visiting public and NIST employees in the hands of a private policing group. Private police contractors do not possess sufficient training, education and expertise it takes to be able to carry out these duties.

The fully sworn and trained officers of the NIST Police Services Group are Federally trained law enforcement professionals. These officers have undergone the most high-quality training programs taught by the most qualified instructors from various Federal agencies at the Federal Law Enforcement Officers Training Center. These officers must complete an initial course of training, as well as training throughout their careers. Both basic and advanced training programs are designed to prepare law enforcement personnel with the skills, aptitudes, and competencies required to expertly serve our nation. Endangering the lives of the public and NIST employees by leaving their safety in the hands of non-professional private police and security companies, who do not possess the proper police credentials and training, to save costs of not having to hire sworn law enforcement officers is pure negligence.

— BUILDING ON A PROUD TRADITION —

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Chuck Canterbury". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent initial "C".

Chuck Canterbury  
National President