



# NATIONAL FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE®

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**CHUCK CANTERBURY**  
NATIONAL PRESIDENT

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

28 September 2016

The Honorable Patrick J. Leahy  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Leahy,

I am writing on behalf of the members of the Fraternal Order of Police to advise you of our strong support for S. 3359 which will re-authorize grants for heroin and methamphetamine task forces.

According to the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA), there was a fivefold increase in the amount of overdose deaths due to heroin from 2001 to 2013, and statistics have shown that we lose 129 people every day to heroin and opioid overdoses. This legislation advances public safety by providing funds to investigate illicit activities related to the distribution of heroin or unlawful distribution of prescription opioids, or unlawful heroin and prescription opioid traffickers through statewide collaboration. This bill also advances public safety by providing funds to investigate illicit activities related to the manufacture and distribution of methamphetamine (including precursor diversion, laboratories, or methamphetamine traffickers). This legislation is necessary for our officers to stop the heroin and opioid epidemic that has affected almost every community in this country and has needlessly taken countless lives.

On behalf of the more than 330,000 members of the Fraternal Order of Police, I look forward to working with you and your staff to move this bill forward. If I can be of any additional help on this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me or Executive Director Jim Pasco in my Washington office.

Sincerely,

  
Chuck Canterbury  
National President