

NATIONAL FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE®

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JIM PASCO EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

24 March 2025

The Honorable James D. Jordan Chairman Committee on the Judiciary U.S. House of Representatives Washington, D.C. 20515 The Honorable Jamin B. Raskin Ranking Member Committee on the Judiciary U.S. House of Representatives Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman and Representative Jordan,

I am writing on behalf of the members of the Fraternal Order of Police to ask the Committee on the Judiciary to favorably report H.R. 2240, the "Improving Law Enforcement Officer Safety and Wellness Through Data Act."

Law enforcement officers across the country are experiencing an increase in violence deliberately targeting them. In 2024, 342 officers were shot in the line of duty and 50 of these officers were killed. The lethality of these attacks would have been much higher but for the advances in medical trauma science and improvements in anti-ballistic technology. The continued rise in deliberate attacks on law enforcement is contributing to a crisis in recruiting the next generation of law enforcement officers and holding on to current officers, whose morale and mental health are negatively impacted.

In an effort to better understand these attacks and support our men and women in law enforcement, this legislation would expand the data collected by the Federal government on attacks and aggressions against law enforcement officers in a comprehensive way. This data would augment the information collected through the Law Enforcement Officers Killed and Assaulted (LEOKA) program, the Uniform Crime Report (UCR), and the National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS) to capture "aggressive actions, conduct, or other traumainducing incidents" aimed at officers. This information and recommendations would then be submitted to Congress.

The bill would also require a report to Congress on the types and frequency of mental health and stress responses of law enforcement officers and identify the types of mental health services and support that exist within Federal, State, and local law enforcement agencies to support officers. If we can better identify what services are needed and where these services can be accessed, we can improve the overall mental health of the men and women in law enforcement.

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On behalf of the more than 377,000 members of the Fraternal Order of Police, we urge the Committee to favorably report this legislation. If I can provide any additional information about this bill, please do not hesitate to contact me or Executive Director Jim Pasco in our Washington, D.C. office.

Sincerely,

Patrick Yoes National President

cc: Jay McDonald, President, Ohio State Lodge Greg Toyeas, National Trustee, Ohio State Lodge Clyde Boatwright, President, Maryland State Lodge Sherrice Carpenter, National Trustee, Maryland State Lodge

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