



NATIONAL FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE®

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PATRICK YOES
NATIONAL PRESIDENT

JIM PASCO
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

5 May 2026

The Honorable Gus M. Bilirakis
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative Bilirakis,

I am writing on behalf of the members of the Fraternal Order of Police to request that you once again cosponsor H.R. 1551, the "Protect and Serve Act."

This legislation is a priority for the FOP and is a direct response to the number of attacks on law enforcement officers by imposing, in limited circumstances, Federal penalties on individuals who deliberately target local, State or Federal law enforcement officers with violence. So far this year, 84 officers have been shot in the line of duty, 10 of whom were killed. There have been 17 ambush-style attacks on law enforcement officers in which 20 officers were shot, five of whom were killed.

Ambush attacks and violence targeting law enforcement officers in general have been steadily increasing in recent years. Last year, 347 officers were shot in the line of duty, which was a small but welcome decrease from the all-time high of 378 in 2023. Sadly, though, of those officers shot in 2025, 45 of them were killed an 10% decrease from 2024. There were 67 ambush-style attacks on law enforcement officers last year that resulted in 90 officers shot, 22 of whom were killed.

We believe the House needs to act now and pass the "Protect and Serve Act," and we were proud to have you as a cosponsor of this measure. We would appreciate your support again in this Congress, which would provide a strong show of support for the men and women in the line of fire and send a clear message to those who would seek to do them harm.

On behalf of the more than 382,000 members of the Fraternal Order of Police, I thank you for considering our request that you cosponsor H.R. 1551. If I can provide any additional information or support for this effort, please do not hesitate to contact me or Executive Director Jim Pasco in our Washington, D.C. office.

Sincerely,

Patrick Yoes
National President

cc: Cory Logan, President, Florida State Lodge
Mike Kelley, National Trustee, Florida State Lodge

