



# The Washington Report

**The Newsletter of the National Association of Police Organizations**  
*Representing America's Finest*

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**August 29, 2013**

## **NAPO WASHINGTON REPORT**

### **NAPO Urges Senators Carper and Coburn to Remove the Workers' Compensation Reform Act of 2013 from Postal Reform Legislation**

Today, NAPO sent letters to the Chairman (Senator Tom Carper (D-DE)) and Ranking Member (Senator Tom Coburn (R-OK)) of the Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs to request they remove the Workers' Compensation Reform Act of 2013 from the Postal Reform Act of 2013 (S.1486). (The letters are attached to this report for your convenience and review).

The Workers' Compensation Reform Act of 2013 would cut benefits for federal workers injured on the job once they reach retirement age. Currently, federal workers injured on the job receive 66 2/3 percent of their basic salary tax free once they reach retirement age. That figure is bumped to 75 percent if the employee has dependents. The provisions under the new legislation would trim the benefits to 50 percent of an employee's salary, once that employee is eligible for retirement, and additional compensation for dependents would no longer be provided.

The Workers' Compensation Act would severely impact honorably injured federal law enforcement officers currently on workers' compensation. Additionally, this text would negatively impact state and local law enforcement officers that are covered by federal workers' compensation benefits.

When the Senate Postal Reform Act of 2013 was introduced, Senator Carper noted in a press release that he and Senator Coburn expect the text of the bill to change based on feedback received from other members of the Senate, stakeholders, postal employees, etc. As the bill is revised, NAPO will continue to engage members of Congress to urge that the Workers' Compensation Act be considered as a separate piece of legislation, and removed from the Postal Reform Act of 2013.

If you have any questions about this issue, please contact Melissa Nee at: [mnee@napo.org](mailto:mnee@napo.org).

**Please monitor NAPO's website [www.napo.org](http://www.napo.org), and Facebook page: National Association of Police Organizations, and follow us on Twitter at NAPOpolice for breaking news and updates.**

# NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF POLICE ORGANIZATIONS, INC.

*Representing America's Finest*

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*Patrolmen's Benevolent  
Association of New York City*

## NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

WILLIAM J. JOHNSON

**Executive Director**

August 29, 2013

The Honorable Tom Carper  
Chairman

U.S. Senate Committee on Homeland Security & Governmental Affairs  
513 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Carper:

On behalf of the National Association of Police Organizations (NAPO), I am writing to request that you remove the Workers' Compensation Reform Act of 2013 from the Postal Reform Act of 2013 (S.1486).

NAPO is a coalition of police unions and associations from across the United States that serves to advance the interests of America's law enforcement through legislative and legal advocacy, political action, and education. Founded in 1978, NAPO now represents more than 1,000 police units and associations, 241,000 sworn law enforcement officers, and more than 100,000 citizens who share a common dedication to fair and effective crime control and law enforcement.

NAPO is concerned that the provisions of the Workers' Compensation Reform Act would cut benefits for federal workers injured on the job once they reach retirement age. Currently, federal workers injured on the job receive 66 2/3 percent of their basic salary once they reach retirement age. The new plan would trim the benefits to 50 percent of an employee's salary, once that employee is eligible for retirement, and additional compensation for dependents would no longer be provided.

This is no way to treat law enforcement officers who put their lives on the line each day to protect the public. The Workers' Compensation Act would severely impact honorably injured federal law enforcement officers currently on worker's compensation. Additionally, this text would negatively impact state and local law enforcement officers that are covered by federal workers' compensation benefits.

We hope you will consider the Workers' Compensation Reform Act of 2013 as a separate piece of legislation, and remove it from the Postal Reform Act of 2013.

We appreciate your consideration and look forward to working with you to improve the Postal Reform Act of 2013. If NAPO can provide any additional information, please feel free to contact me at: (703) 549-0775.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'William J. Johnson', followed by a long horizontal flourish.

William J. Johnson  
Executive Director

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**Executive Director**

August 29, 2013

The Honorable Tom Coburn  
Ranking Member  
U.S. Senate Committee on Homeland Security & Governmental Affairs  
172 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Ranking Member Coburn:

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Executive Director