



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF POLICE ORGANIZATIONS, INC.

Representing America's Finest

317 South Patrick Street. ~ Alexandria, Virginia ~ 22314-3501
(703) 549-0775 ~ (800) 322-NAPO ~ Fax: (703) 684-0515
www.napo.org ~ Email: info@napo.org

EXECUTIVE OFFICERS November 15, 2023

MICHAEL McHALE

President
Florida Police Benevolent Association

The Honorable Jack Reed
Chairman, Committee on Armed Services
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Mike Rogers
Chair, Committee on Armed Services
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

JOHN A. FLYNN

Vice President
Police Benevolent Association of New York City

The Honorable Roger Wicker
Ranking Member, Committee on
Armed Services
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Adam Smith
Ranking Member, Committee on
Armed Services
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

CRAIG LALLY

Recording Secretary
Los Angeles Police Protective League

SCOTT HOVSEPIAN

Treasurer
Massachusetts Coalition of Police

Dear Chairmen Reed and Rogers and Ranking Members Wicker and Smith,

KEITH CURRY

Sergeant-at-Arms
New Jersey State Policemen's Benevolent Association

On behalf of the National Association of Police Organizations (NAPO) and the over 241,000 sworn law enforcement officers we represent across the country, I am writing to express our strong support of Section 1087 ("9/11 Responder and Survivor Health Funding Correction Act of 2023") and Title LXVIII ("FEND Off Fentanyl Act") of the Senate-passed version of H.R. 2670, the Fiscal Year 2024 National Defense Authorization Act. We urge that these vital provisions be retained in the final Conference Report of H.R. 2670.

SCOTT LEETON

Executive Secretary
Combined Law Enforcement Associations of Texas

MARK YOUNG

Vice President,
Associate Members
Detroit Police Lieutenants & Sergeants Association

Section 1087 – 9/11 Responder and Survivor Health Funding Correction Act

Section 1087 ensures critical funding for the World Trade Center Health Program (WTCHP), which, in 2015, was reauthorized until 2090 by Congress in recognition of the importance of this program. Unfortunately, this has proven to not be enough as the reauthorization imposed yearly spending caps tied to inflation only as measured by the Consumer Price Index and not the historically higher, and faster rising, medical cost inflation. The WTCHP faces a projected shortfall that will cause it to not have enough funds to provide care for those 9/11 responders and survivors still suffering the physical and mental impacts of 9/11.

JAMES PALMER

Parliamentarian
Wisconsin Professional Police Association

WILLIAM J. JOHNSON, CAE

Executive Director and
General Counsel

Section 1087 of the Senate-passed NDAA would ensure the long-term viability of the WTCHP as well as make important changes to improve the ability of the Program to certify both health care providers and WTC-related health conditions and ensure 9/11 responders at the Pentagon and Shanksville who were active-duty Department of Defense military or civilians, as well as other federal employees, are included in the Program.

Title LXVIII – FEND Off Fentanyl Act

The spread of fentanyl in our communities is devastating. According to the National Institute on Drug Abuse, more than 106,000 Americans died from drug overdoses in 2021 and opioids were involved in over 70,601 of those deaths, a significant increase in opioid-

related overdose deaths over previous years. Many of these deaths were from using synthetic analogues of fentanyl. Fentanyl is being mixed with already deadly illicit drugs, hidden in counterfeit drugs, and being peddled at alarmingly high rates to our nation's youth.

Title LXVIII of the Senate-passed version of H.R. 2670 will help combat the country's fentanyl crisis by enhancing current law so U.S. government agencies can more effectively disrupt illicit opioid supply chains and penalize those facilitating the trafficking of fentanyl. It also ensures that sanctions are imposed not only on the illicit drug trade, but also on the money laundering that makes it profitable.

Title LXVIII will be a critical component in the fight against the spread of this deadly poison in our communities by helping to stop the flow of fentanyl into our country. NAPO firmly believes we cannot act only after this drug enters our country; we must fight it before it crosses our borders.

Section 1087 ensures that survivors who risked their lives to protect us from the largest terrorist attack in our nation's history continue to receive the compensation that they deserve. Title LXVIII protects our national security and could save the lives of thousands of young Americans from the scourge that is fentanyl. It is for these reasons and many others that NAPO urges the retention of Section 1087 and Title LXVIII in the final conference agreement on this year's National Defense Authorization Act. If we can provide any assistance, please feel free to contact me at (703) 549-0775.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'William J. Johnson', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

William J. Johnson
Executive Director