

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF POLICE ORGANIZATIONS, INC.

Representing America's Finest

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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 line extending to the right.

William J. Johnson
Executive Director