



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF POLICE ORGANIZATIONS, INC.

Representing America's Finest

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EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

January 18, 2019

MICHAEL McHALE
President
Florida Police Benevolent
Association

The Honorable Don Bacon
United States House of Representatives
1024 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

JOHN A. FLYNN
Vice President
Patrolmen's Benevolent
Association of New York City

Dear Congressman Bacon:

TODD HARRISON
Recording Secretary
Combined Law Enforcement
Associations of Texas

On behalf of the National Association of Police Organizations (NAPO) and the 241,000 sworn law enforcement officers we represent across the country, I am writing to advise you of our strong support for the LEOSA Reform Act.

SCOTT HOVSEPIAN
Treasurer
Massachusetts Coalition
of Police

NAPO worked tirelessly with members of Congress to enact the Law Enforcement Officers Safety Act (LEOSA) in 2004 to rightly allow off-duty and retired police officers to carry their firearms for the protection of themselves, their families and our nation's communities. Since its enactment, we have pushed for and supported several amendments to improve its implementation to ensure that the law is easily, fairly and broadly implemented across the country. However, qualified off-duty and retired officers continue to encounter roadblocks when exercising their right to carry under LEOSA.

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

CRAIG D. LALLY
Executive Secretary
Los Angeles Police
Protective League

The objective of the LEOSA Reform Act is to address specific issues that qualified active and retired law enforcement officers are facing when utilizing their rights under the law. The bill would expand the areas qualified current or retired officers are allowed to carry a firearm, including on a Gun Free School Zone; on state, local and private property otherwise open to the public; and in certain federal facilities. It will allow qualified officers and retired officers to carry an ammunition magazine of any capacity that is not prohibited by federal law. Importantly, it will reform qualifications standards to alleviate undue burdens for those carrying under LEOSA.

MARK YOUNG
Vice President,
Associate Members
Detroit Police Lieutenants &
Sergeants Association

JAMES PALMER
Parliamentarian
Wisconsin Professional Police
Association

With the rise in violence against law enforcement officers and the recent tragic mass shootings across our country, allowing all qualified officers and retirees, who have sworn to serve and protect our communities, to carry in accordance with LEOSA would allow them to respond more efficiently and effectively in emergencies for the safety of themselves and those around them. The LEOSA Reform Act will go a long way to ensuring all qualified off-duty and retired or separated officers across the country can rightfully carry under LEOSA.

WILLIAM J. JOHNSON, CAE
Executive Director and
General Counsel

We thank you for your continued support of the law enforcement community and we look forward to working with you to pass this important legislation. If we can provide any assistance, please feel free to contact me at (703) 549-0775.

Sincerely,

William J. Johnson
Executive Director