



NATIONAL FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE

PATRICK YOES NATIONAL PRESIDENT

JIM PASCO EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

328 Massachusetts Ave NE | Washington DC 20002

(202) 547-8189 | www.fop.net | legislative@fop.net

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The Honorable Kristen E. Gillibrand
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Thomas R. Tillis
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Gillibrand and Senator Tillis,

I am writing on behalf of the members of the Fraternal Order of Police to advise you of our support for S. 3554 the "Providing Child Care for Police Officers Act."

Law enforcement officers have extremely demanding jobs, which are made even more difficult by the unconventional hours and the stresses of shift work. It is even more challenging for officers with young children. Many of these officers' work nights or have non-traditional hours and may not have viable options for affordable childcare. Since most childcare programs only operate during traditional hours, the programs are often unable to accommodate law enforcement families.

Your legislation addresses this issue by authorizing \$24 million each year for Fiscal Years 2024 through 2028 to help agencies establish childcare programs that can accommodate the needs of law enforcement families. Of these funds, 20% will be directed to assist departments with fewer than 200 officers to ensure that smaller departments are not overlooked.

We believe this bill, aside from helping current law enforcement families, will additionally improve recruitment and retention efforts across the country for future officers. This bill will draw in potential officers with young children who have reservations about joining due to the lack of reasonable childcare options. If we as a nation are to address the retention and recruitment crisis in law enforcement, we must be prepared to invest and innovate. This legislation is a good first step.

On behalf of the more than 373,000 members of the Fraternal Order of Police, I thank you all for your leadership on this important issue. If I can provide any additional assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me or Executive Director Jim Pasco in our Washington, D.C. office.

Sincerely,

Patrick Yoes
National President

cc: Mike Essig, President, New York State Lodge
Joseph Battaglia, National Trustee, New York State Lodge
Randy Hagler, President, North Carolina State Lodge
Dennis McCrary, National Trustee, North Carolina State Lodge

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