



The Washington Report

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

August 22, 2013

NAPO WASHINGTON REPORT FLASH

NAPO Supports the Social Security Fairness Act

On August 21, 2013, NAPO sent the letter below to Senator Begich (D-AK) to thank him for introducing the Social Security Fairness Act (S.896), which would strike the Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP) and Government Pension Offset (GPO) formulas currently used to calculate Social Security benefits. Both GPO and WEP penalize workers with split careers who contributed a great deal to Social Security, but retire under “non-covered” pensions.

The loss of income caused by GPO and WEP is a financial strain on law enforcement officers and their families, an additional strain that those who spent their careers on the front lines protecting our nation's communities do not need. Moreover, by significantly scaling back and reducing Social Security benefits for law enforcement officers and their survivors, as GPO and WEP do, officers and their families are provided much less protection against financial difficulties. This is not way to honor those who have chosen to serve our nation and its communities.

NAPO will continue to work with Senator Begich to ensure prompt passage of this legislation, which will totally repeal GPO and WEP from Title II of the Social Security Act.

If you have any questions about the Social Security Fairness Act, please contact Melissa Nee at: mnee@napo.org.

Please monitor NAPO's website 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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Executive Director

August 22, 2013

The Honorable Mark Begich
United States Senate
111 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Begich:

On behalf of the National Association of Police Organizations (NAPO), representing 241,000 rank-and-file law enforcement officers from across the United States, I write to thank you for introducing the Social Security Fairness Act (S.896).

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 strongly supports the Social Security Fairness Act, which would strike the Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP) and Government Pension Offset (GPO) formulas currently used to calculate Social Security benefits. Both GPO and WEP penalize workers with split careers who contributed a great deal to Social Security, but retire under "non-covered" pensions.

GPO and WEP take hard-earned Social Security dollars out of the hands of retirees or their spouses, money that would otherwise be spent on essential goods and services to bolster the local economy. Moreover, by significantly scaling back and reducing Social Security benefits for law enforcement officers and their survivors, as GPO and WEP do, officers and their families are provided much less protection against financial difficulties.

NAPO will continue to support efforts to totally repeal GPO and WEP from Title II of the Social Security Act. If you have any suggestions on how NAPO can support this legislation, please feel free to contact me at (703) 549-0775.

Thank you again for introducing this important piece of legislation.

Sincerely,

William J. Johnson
Executive Director