

# NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF POLICE ORGANIZATIONS, INC.

*Representing America's Finest*

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**WILLIAM J. JOHNSON**

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