

# NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF POLICE ORGANIZATIONS, INC.

Representing America's Finest

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## **EXECUTIVE OFFICERS**

May 16, 2023

#### MICHAEL McHALE President

President Florida Police Benevolent Association United States Senate Washington, D.C. 20510

# JOHN A. FLYNN Vice President

Vice President Police Benevolent Association of New York City

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Dear Senator,

#### **CRAIG LALLY**

Recording Secretary Los Angeles Police Protective League

# SCOTT HOVSEPIAN

Treasurer
Massachusetts Coalition
of Police

### KEITH CURRY Sergeant-at-Arms State Policemen's

New Jersey State Policemen's Benevolent Association

# SCOTT LEETON

Executive Secretary Combined Law Enforcement Associations of Texas

### MARK YOUNG

Vice President, Associate Members Detroit Police Lieutenants & Sergeants Association

#### JAMES PALMER

Parliamentarian Wisconsin Professional Police Association

## WILLIAM J. JOHNSON, CAE Executive Director and General Counsel

On behalf of the National Association of Police Organizations (NAPO) and the over 241,000 sworn law enforcement officers we represent across the country, I am writing to advise you of our serious concerns with the Comprehensive Policing and Justice Reform Amendment Act (CPJRAA) that was enacted by the Council of the District of Columbia on January 19, 2023, and ask you to join us in support of H.J. Res. 42.

The CPJRAA will negatively impact the Metropolitan Police Department (MPD) and the City it serves. The underlying message of this act is that law enforcement officers cannot be trusted. It strips the men and women of the MPD of their right to bargain over accountability or disciplinary issues. This creates substandard collective bargaining rights for the officers, setting them apart from their fellow public servants in the District, who are allowed to bargain over disciplinary issues.

Further, the CPJRAA undermines officers' Constitutional rights, including the right to due process, a right we give to all citizens. This is incredibly concerning. Without guidelines and procedures to protect officers' due process, officers are too often subjected to the whim of their departments or local politics during internal investigations and administrative hearings. The CPJRAA also violates officers' right to privacy by disclosing officer disciplinary records, without regard to personal identifiable information, which risks putting officers and their families in harm's way.

NAPO is concerned the CPJRAA will exacerbate the current hiring and retention crisis the MPD is facing. With the City Council not respecting or trusting the officers who serve and protect their citizens, it will hinder recruitment and impact officer morale. Therefore, we support H.J. Res. 42, disapproving of the CPJRAA, and urge you to vote in favor of the resolution when it comes up for a vote this afternoon.

If we can provide any assistance, please feel free to contact me at (703) 549-0775.

Sincerely,

William J. Johnson, Esq.

**Executive Director**