

Federal Law Enforcement Officers Association • National Association of Police Organizations •
Detectives Endowment Association (NYPD) • Sergeants Benevolent Association (NYPD) •
Lieutenants Benevolent Association (NYPD) • Captains Endowment Association (NYPD) •
Port Authority Police Benevolent Association, Inc.

December 13, 2010

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Speaker of the House
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Madam Speaker:

On behalf of the undersigned organizations, representing more than 300,000 Federal, State and local law enforcement officers, thank you for your continuing strong support of H.R. 847, the “James Zadroga 9/11 Health and Compensation Act,” and your efforts to move this bill through the House of Representatives in September. As you know, last week the U.S. Senate voted to refuse to allow this important legislation to advance. And because of this unconscionable vote, a bill which has received overwhelming support from 268 Representatives and 58 Senators is in jeopardy of dying when this Congress ends. This cannot be allowed to happen. Therefore, we specifically request that you attach this legislation as an amendment to any legislative vehicle that is expected to move through the House of Representatives this year.

The events that took place on September 11, 2001, have not only become a part of history but an everyday health issue for our members across the United States. Law enforcement officers are literally dying of 9/11-related health issues: cancers, pulmonary and respiratory disorders are just some of challenges with which these brave men and women must contend as a result of carrying out their sworn duty to protect and serve on that fateful day nine years ago. Within the New York City Police Department alone, more officers have died since September 11, 2001 of related health conditions than fell in the line of duty in the attacks themselves. There are thousands more from nearly every State and Congressional District in the country who today are suffering from 9/11 health-related conditions.

As the 111th Congress draws to a close, so do the opportunities to provide medical support to the Heroes of 9/11. It is simply too important an issue to too many to allow the “James Zadroga 9/11 Health and Compensation Act” to fall victim to base politics or procedural gimmickry. What kind of message would that send to the law enforcement officers, firefighters, and other first responders across our nation? We hope that no one will ever have to answer that question, and request that you work to ensure that this important legislation is enacted into law this year.

Sincerely,



Jon Adler, President
Federal Law Enforcement
Officers Association



William Johnson, Executive Director
National Association of Police
Organizations




Michael Palladino, President
Detectives Endowment Association



Ed Mullins, President
Sergeants Benevolent Association



Thomas Sullivan, President
Lieutenants Benevolent Association



Roy Richter, President
Captains Endowment Association



Paul Nunziato, President
Port Authority Police Benevolent Association, Inc.

CC: Hon. Carolyn Maloney, U.S. House of Representatives
Hon. Jerrold Nadler, U.S. House of Representatives
Hon. Peter King, U.S. House of Representatives