

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF POLICE ORGANIZATIONS, INC.

Representing America's Finest

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October 18, 2011

The Honorable Patrick Leahy
Chairman
Senate Judiciary Committee
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Chuck Grassley
Ranking Member
Senate Judiciary Committee
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Leahy and Ranking Member Grassley:

On behalf of the National Association of Police Organizations (NAPO), representing 241,000 rank-and-file officers from across the United States, I write to you to ask you to oppose The National Criminal Justice Commission Act of 2011 (S.A. 750).

During the 111th Congress, NAPO did support the original version of Senator Jim Webb's Crime Commission Bill (S. 714). However, over time the bill morphed into a different piece of legislation which NAPO could no longer support. The current proposal mirrors the later language of the 111th Congress, causing great concern to NAPO's members.

These concerns, which we share with other law enforcement groups such as the NDAA, include concern over the composition and qualifications of the proposed commission; the unrealistic timeframes called for in the legislation, and the appropriation of funds for the commission at the expense of other, proven, Justice Department programs.

Rank-and-file officers are the most visible and immediate providers of government service and protection for Americans. It is in the best interest of our entire nation to ensure they have the support they need to succeed. We strongly oppose the National Criminal Justice Commission being added as an amendment. If you should have any questions or wish to discuss this further, please feel free to contact me, or NAPO's Director of Government Affairs, Rachel Hedge, at (703) 549-0775.

Sincerely,

William J. Johnson
Executive Director

CC: United States Senate