



INTERNATIONAL UNION OF POLICE ASSOCIATIONS

THE ONLY UNION FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS

SAM A. CABRAL
International President

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February 3, 2020

The Honorable Jill Holtzman Vogel
Pocahontas Building
Room No: E612
Senate of Virginia
P. O. Box 396
Richmond, VA 23218

Dear Senator Jill Holtzman Vogel,

On behalf of the International Union of Police Associations, AFL-CIO, I am proud to endorse your thoughtful legislation, **SB 561**, regarding **Workers Compensation for Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder for Law Enforcement Officers and Firefighters**.

As you undoubtedly know, Post-Traumatic Stress is a very real danger to the men and women in Law Enforcement. Tragically, each year, we lose more Law Enforcement Officers to suicide than we do to felonious assaults and vehicle accidents combined. This sad reality is manifestly preventable.

These brave men and women see and experience things which sane and sober people cannot fathom. These horrors cannot be unseen or forgotten. Competent professional help can assist them in developing effective coping mechanisms and learning to deal with these events. Your legislation will provide them with the resources to access these resources and handle these issues long before they become unbearable.

I thank you for the introduction of this important Bill and look forward to seeing it passed into law.

Very Respectfully,

Sam A. Cabral
International President