

## INTERNATIONAL UNION OF POLICE ASSOCIATIONS AFL-CIO

SAM A. CABRAL International President

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THE ONLY UNION FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS

February 24, 2023

The Honorable John Rutherford The Honorable Josh Gottheimer United States House of Representatives Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressmen Rutherford and Gottheimer:

On behalf of the brave men and women represented by the International Union of Police Associations, I am pleased to offer our endorsement of H.R. 743, "The Protect and Serve Act of 2023".

This bill will amend Title 18, United States Code, to punish criminal offenses targeting law enforcement officers.

Our officers are being ambushed and shot at an alarming rate, almost always, just because of the uniform they wear. Making these assaults a federal crime will bring swifter and more targeted justice to those who perpetuate these criminal acts. Such targeting could certainly fall into the category of a hate crime.

We applaud your re-introduction of this critical legislation and look forward to working with you and your staff to see it become law.

Very Respectfully

Sam A. Cabral

International President