June 23, 2023

The Honorable Pete Stauber
The Honorable Dan Kildee
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressmen Stauber and Kildee:

On behalf of the International Union of Police Associations, AFL-CIO, I am proud to endorse and support your critical legislation, H.R. 3539, the "Public Safety Employer-Employee Cooperation Act".

The I.U.P.A. represent active duty, rank and file law enforcement professionals across this great nation, including the U.S. territories of Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands.

This bill is critically important to the men and women who protect the public's safety. Far too many police officers are killed in the line of duty every year. They certainly have the right to be heard by their employers in their own communities or states on matters of wages, hours, and working conditions. This bill prohibits strikes. It simply provides a format for communication between the public safety officers and their employers. It would seem this communication is absolutely critical, especially in today's environment of increased violent crime and difficulty recruiting and retaining police officers.

The I.U.P.A. believes that the rank and file officers, police administrators, and the public they serve would benefit by a team approach to police pay and benefits. The delivery of service and community protections is never negotiable. We do believe that the compensation for those services our members provide should be the subject of sober and meaningful deliberation. We also believe that employers should seek the input of the rank and file officers concerning matters of working conditions, hours, and the process agreed upon for discipline.

Please let us know how we can assist you and your staff to move this critical legislation forward.

Very respectfully,

Sam A. Cabral
International President