August 2, 2023

The Honorable Ami Bera
The Honorable Brian Fitzpatrick
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressmen Bera and Fitzpatrick:

On behalf of the International Union of Police Associations, (I.U.P.A.), I am pleased to announce our support of your thoughtful and timely legislation, H.R. 4274, “Helping Emergency Responders Overcome Act” or the “HERO Act”.

The International Union of Police Associations, AFL-CIO, represents rank and file, active-duty law professionals across this great nation, including the U.S. territories of Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands.

Public safety personnel witness events that cannot be imagined. These situations create visual memories that cannot be forgotten. As you know, suicide is one of the leading causes of death among law enforcement officers. The number of these tragedies can be reduced significantly with early, confidential intervention and treatment. Your legislation provides for data collection on a national level, which will allow for commonalities to be identified and addressed. It will provide an insight into best practices in identification of risks and their mitigation.

We look forward to working with you and your staff to see this critical legislation move forward.

Very Respectfully,

Sam A. Cabral
International President