

INTERNATIONAL UNION OF POLICE ASSOCIATIONS

THE ONLY UNION FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS

SAM A. CABRAL International President

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March 25, 2025

The Honorable John Kennedy [R-LA] United States Senate 437 Russell Senate Building Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Kennedy:

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, **S. 679**, the "**LEOSA Reform Act**".

The International Union of Police Associations, AFL-CIO, represents rank and file, activeduty law enforcement professionals across this great nation, including the U.S. territories of Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands. Many of our members serve in the State of Louisiana.

This bill aims to improve and clarify the existing LEOSA.

- It seeks to harmonize state and federal laws regarding where officers can carry, aligning their rights with those of civilian concealed carry permit holders (e.g., schools, national parks, common carriers).
- It extends the LEOSA exemption to include magazine capacity.
- It allows officers to carry firearms in federal facilities like U.S. Post Offices, Social Security Administration offices, and Veterans Affairs offices.
- It gives states the option to extend the required training certification period for retired officers from 12 months to up to 36 months.

In short, it will give qualified officers many of the same rights as private citizens who are authorized to carry concealed weapons. Our retired officers are better trained and have decades of experience with firearms and their lawful use to protect lives.

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

Very Respectfully,

Sam A. Cabral

International President