

FEDERAL LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS ASSOCIATION

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June 15, 2016

The Honorable John B. Larson
1501 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Larson:

On behalf of the Federal Law Enforcement Officers Association (FLEOA) – the nation's largest professional, non-profit association representing 26,000 federal law enforcement officers from 65 agencies – I am writing you regarding H.R. 2386, the Honoring Hometown Heroes Act.

Every day, our first responders put their lives and livelihood on the line for the greater good. Terrorist and active shooter attacks, such as the 9/11 attacks, the Oklahoma City and Boston Marathon bombings, the Sandy Hook shooting and now the Orlando attack, have one thing in common: our nation's first responders were there. They suffered, bled and died to help those in need.

The Honoring Hometown Heroes Act amends the Flag Code to permit the Governor of a state or territory (or the mayor of the District of Columbia) to order the American flag to be lowered to half-staff in the tragic event that a first responder from that jurisdiction dies while serving in the line of duty. Firefighters, police officers, and other first responders who put their lives on the line to protect their communities deserve the simple, but meaningful, honor of having the flag flown at half-staff should they have to make the ultimate sacrifice while serving in the line of duty.

FLEOA recognizes the importance of our solidarity in honoring those who gave the ultimate sacrifice to ensure the safety and security of the citizens of our great nation.

We appreciate your time and effort regarding H.R. 2386.

Respectfully,

Dominick L. Stokes

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FLEOA Vice President for Legislative Affairs