

# FEDERAL LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS ASSOCIATION

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July 20, 2016

The Honorable Katherine Clark (MA-5)  
1721 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Clark:

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 to you regarding the Interstate Sextortion Prevention Act of 2016.

As part the work of law enforcement officials is to protect the most vulnerable among us, many FLEOA members are tasked with investigating sex trafficking, rape, childhood sexual abuse, child pornography and other exploitation crimes. We can attest first hand to the particularly heinous nature of those cases, the difficulty in organizing and reviewing the evidence, locating and arresting the perpetrators and interviewing the victims.

FLEOA recognizes that sextortion is a type of online sexual exploitation in which threats are used to coerce victims to engage in sexual activity against their will. Perpetrators often threaten to expose private or sensitive material unless victims produce sexual imagery, engage in sexual activity, or pay money. With the increase in social networking trends and interactive mobile device applications, sextortion is among the fastest growing threat to children.

FLEOA wholeheartedly supports this bill as it would criminalize the use of the interstate telecommunications system to:

- Coerce another person to engage in sexual activity;
- Coerce another person to produce sexual imagery; and
- Coerce another person to engage in nonsexual conduct or to extort money using sexual imagery.
- Establishing a civil action for victims of sextortion offenses.
- Requiring defendants to pay restitution to victims of sextortion offenses.

FLEOA appreciates your time and effort regarding the Interstate Sextortion Prevention Act of 2016.

Respectfully,

Dominick L. Stokes

*Dominick L. Stokes*

FLEOA Vice President for Legislative Affairs