

# FEDERAL LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS ASSOCIATION

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April 12, 2019

The Honorable Chuck Grassley  
Chairman Committee on Finance  
United States Senate  
219 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Grassley,

On behalf of the over 26,000 members of the [Federal Law Enforcement Officers Association](http://www.fleoa.org), I am writing you today to endorse your introduction of S.1208, The Protecting America's First Responders Act. As you know, the Federal Law Enforcement Officers Association (FLEOA) is the largest not for profit and non-political professional organization representing federal agents and officers in 65 federal agencies.

FLEOA has long supported the Public Safety Officers' Benefit Program (PSOB) and has advocated for changes that will make it more relevant to the protection of our members and their families. We believe that S.1208 will accomplish this, therefore, we strongly endorse this valuable legislation. Currently, these valued benefits for survivors and the families of fallen officers are calculated on the date of injury or death. Often this occurred years before the finalization of the award and is significantly less than what the current award would be. This bill will resolve this discrepancy by calculating the award amount using the date of determination. FLEOA applauds using the more reasonable definition of a disability which is used by the Social Security Administration. Lastly, FLEOA fully supports making PSOB educational benefits more available to the children of disabled or deceased officers, something this bill will accomplish.

In conclusion, FLEOA fully supports the changes that this bill will make to the PSOB. This legislation will make the PSOB more equitable, remedying problems and expanding educational benefits to family members. If there is anything that FLEOA can do to assist in the passage of this important legislation, please do not hesitate to contact our organization.

Sincerely,

*Nathan R. Catura*

Nathan R. Catura  
National President  
Federal Law Enforcement Officers Association