

## **CITY OF BILLINGS**

## POLICE DEPARTMENT





May 1, 2019

Re: PAFRA Act

To whom it may concern:

On behalf of the Billings Police Department in Billings, Montana, I am writing to encourage you to approve and enact the above referenced legislation. This is a very important initiative that provides needed support and assistance to law enforcement officers who have been catastrophically injured in the line of duty.

All too often, we see law enforcement officers' line of duty injuries that prevent them from continuing their careers. These injuries are incurred through no fault of their own and can be attributed to criminal causes, accidents, or duty induced health issues. These law enforcement officers' sacrifice must never be forgotten and steps must be taken to assure for their long-term needs.

It would be ideal if law enforcement had a mechanism to support wounded officers that is as robust as those supporting wounded soldiers or line of duty deaths. Unfortunately, we are not there yet. Furtherance of this act would be significant and well justified. Thank you for your consideration.

Rich St. John Chief of Police

