

Federal Law Enforcement Officers Association • National Association of Police Organizations •
Detectives Endowment Association (NYPD) • Sergeants Benevolent Association (NYPD) •
Lieutenants Benevolent Association (NYPD) • Captains Endowment Association (NYPD) •
Port Authority Police Benevolent Association, Inc.

14 September 2010

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Speaker of the House
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable John Boehner
Minority Leader
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Madam Speaker & Minority Leader Boehner:

On behalf of the undersigned organizations, representing more than 300,000 Federal, State and local law enforcement officers, we are writing to request that the House of Representatives move to reconsider H.R. 847, the “James Zadroga 9/11 Health and Compensation Act.” We further request that the House bring up this measure as soon as possible upon its return to session this week, and without any extraneous amendments. We cannot wait any longer.

This July, after many long years and thanks to the hard work of countless individuals, the House of Representatives finally held a vote on the Zadroga Act. To say that we were disappointed with the outcome would be an understatement. While we will not deign to dignify what preceded the vote by reciting it here, ultimately 255 Members of the House voted in support of providing medical monitoring and treatment to those who risked their lives responding to the single most heinous attack in our nation’s history. This level of support demonstrated beyond a shadow of a doubt that this bill can pass. And it must. We cannot wait any longer.

Nine years ago this week, we labored untold hours at Ground Zero searching for our friends, colleagues, and fellow citizens who were trapped in the wreckage of the World Trade Center. We did so willingly, in an environment more toxic than any we have seen before or since, and with no concern for ourselves. While Members of Congress banded together on the steps of the Capitol to show the unity of our country at a time of tragedy, we were united in a singular mission on “The Pile”. When Congress united in voting to expedite Public Safety Officers Benefits payments and establish the Victims Compensation Fund to aid the families of the fallen, we were on “The Pile”. Now, nine years later, we are united again as we and tens of thousands of our fellow first responders suffer with the lingering effects of our service. We left our health on “The Pile”, and we are dying. We cannot wait any longer.

We cannot wait any longer, nor should we. Congress came together in the wake of 9/11 in ways great and small to honor the courage, sacrifice and dedication to duty of those who responded in New York City, Shanksville, and the Pentagon, and those who made the ultimate sacrifice. It must do so again in passing H.R. 847. We urge you, as the leaders of the House of Representatives, to work together to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,



Jon Adler, President
Federal Law Enforcement
Officers Association



Thomas Nee, President
National Association of Police
Organizations



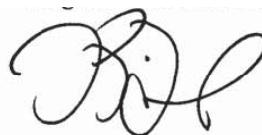
Michael Palladino, President
Detectives Endowment Association



Ed Mullins, President
Sergeants Benevolent Association



Thomas Sullivan, President
Lieutenants Benevolent Association



Roy Richter, President
Captains Endowment Association



Paul Nunziato, President
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