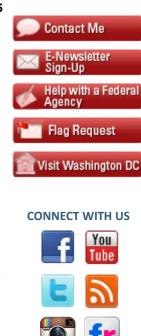
News from Representative Mario Diaz-Balart

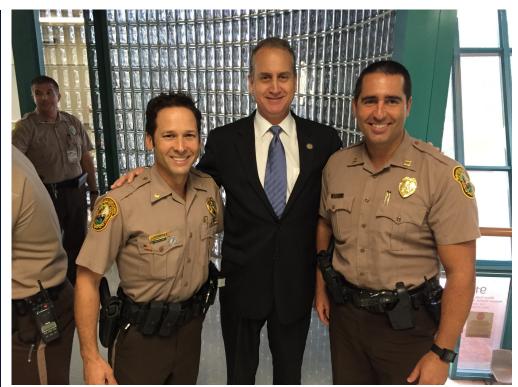


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## May 26, 2015

Earlier this month, National Police Week was celebrated across the country. I joined millions of Americans in honoring America's finest. I stopped by Miami Dade Police Department's Midwest Station, which covers unincorporated parts of the county between Doral and Sweetwater in our district. A few days later, I visited Collier County Sheriff's Golden Gate substation. It was a pleasure speaking with these fine men and women that protect our communities around Florida's 25<sup>th</sup> District, but I wanted to make sure these folks truly understood my heartfelt gratitude for all the difficult and challenging work they do. The House also passed two bills last week that will greatly help law enforcement officers and their families. H.R. 606, the *Don't Tax Our Fallen Public Safety Heroes Act*, and H.R. 2146 the *Defending Public Safety Employees' Retirement Act*, allow retired officers to fully enjoy their retirement funds and benefits and also give the families of fallen officers full access to their compensation.





In honor of National Police Week, Congressman Diaz-Balart visits with Miami-Dade Police officers to thank them for their service. Congressman Diaz-Balart also spoke about H.R. 606 and H.R. 2146, two bills that will greatly help law enforcement officers and their families.

The month of May also honors another line of brave men and women – our military. During Military Appreciation Month, let's take the time to honor those who have served, both past and present. Like our law enforcement, they sacrifice so much from their personal lives to ensure that our communities are out of harm's way. Last week, the House passed a number of bills to continue giving back to those who have selflessly served our country.

- •H.R. 1382, *Boosting Rates of American Veteran Employment* (*BRAVE*) *Act*, gives preference to government contractors who employ veterans on a full time basis.
- •H.R. 1313, Service Disabled Veteran Owned Small Business Relief Act, allows surviving spouses of all disabled veterans to keep the veteran's small business through the VA's "Vets First" program for at least three years after the veteran has passed.
  •H.R. 1038, Ensuring VA Employee Accountability Act, ensures transparency and accountability by requiring the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to keep all written reprimands that a VA employee receives in their file as long as they remain employed by the Department.
- •H.R. 474, *Homeless Veterans' Reintegration Programs Reauthorization Act*, reauthorizes a program helps homeless veterans, for example, by providing additional funds to organizations that provide them job training.

•H.R. 91, Veteran's I.D. Card Act, helps to protect veterans' identity by allowing any honorably discharged to receive an I.D. card through the VA. Instead of having to carry their official military service records, which contain their social security number, service history, and other private information, the I.D. card would only display the veteran's photo, name, and a unique I.D. number that is not sensitive.

All of these bills are just part of the way that House Republicans are working to serve those who serve our country and our communities. There are not enough words to express my gratitude to our law enforcement officers, our military, and our other lines of first responders who protect our nation.

As always, stay in touch on Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, and <u>Instagram</u>, or visit my <u>website</u> for any constituent services I am able to provide you with.

Warm Regards, Mario Diaz-Balart @MarioDB













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