



## NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF POLICE ORGANIZATIONS, INC.

*Representing America's Finest*

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Executive Director and  
General Counsel

March 10, 2025

The Honorable John Rutherford  
United States House of Representatives  
1711 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Rutherford:

On behalf of the National Association of Police Organizations (NAPO), representing over 241,000 sworn law enforcement officers across the nation, I am writing to advise you of our strong support for the Homes for Every Local Protector, Educator, and Responder (HELPER) Act.

Like many public servants, law enforcement officers serve and protect our nation and our communities for modest wages, and they often face financial obstacles when buying a home in today's competitive housing market. Especially with interest rates rising, many officers and their families have found it difficult to afford to purchase homes, making it harder for them to stay and live in the communities they serve.

Police1 conducted a survey in 2021 of 319 police departments where it was found that a staggering 68% of reporting departments stated that high housing costs are hindering their hiring process. By creating a new first time homebuyer loan program through the Federal Housing Administration (FHA) that aims to remove the biggest financial barriers for buying a house – the down payment requirement and a monthly insurance premium requirement – the HELPER Act would provide public safety officers with access to affordable homeownership. The Program created by this bill would help the men and women who have chosen to serve their communities buy homes which might otherwise not been possible.

We thank you for your leadership and your continued support of America's law enforcement community. We look forward to working with you to pass this important legislation. If we can provide any assistance, please feel free to contact me at (703) 549-0775.

Sincerely,

William J. Johnson, Esq.  
Executive Director