



FEDERAL LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS ASSOCIATION

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Representing Members Of:

AGENCY for INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT
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Food & Drug Administration & OIG
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July 22, 2009

The Honorable Senator Patrick Leahy
Chairman
Senate Judiciary Committee
433 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Leahy:

As the National President of the Federal Law Enforcement Officers Association (FLEOA), I am writing to you regarding your recently introduced changes to the Law Enforcement Officers Safety Act (LEOSA).

As you know, FLEOA is the largest association representing federal law enforcement officers. FLEOA represents more than 26,000 federal agents from over 65 different federal law enforcement agencies.

I would like to applaud your continued efforts to introduce critically needed changes to LEOSA as it is currently written. FLEOA members across the country have expressed their frustration at the differing interpretations of the law by their individual states and their inability in some cases to gain firearms certification in order to comply with the requirements of the law.

In addition to the qualification and interpretation issues, many federal agents have been unnecessarily exempted from participating because they lacked the mandated 15 years of statutory authority. Reducing from 15 to 10 the number of required years of service for a former law enforcement officer to qualify under the law will allow many of these excluded officers to participate.

Lastly, providing clear mental health standards and procedures concerning mental health issues and LEOSA certification will ensure a measure of fairness and consistency to the law.

Sincerely,

Jon Adler
National President, FLEOA

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