



# Department for Professional Employees, AFL-CIO

May 12, 2008

U.S. Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

Re: Public Safety Employer-Employee Cooperation Act of 2007 (S. 2123)

Dear Senator:

On behalf of the Department for Professional Employees, AFL-CIO (DPE) and the 25 national unions affiliated with it, I urge you to support the Public Safety Employer-Employee Cooperation Act of 2007 (S. 2123).

DPE is a coalition of national unions that together represent more than four million professional and technical workers in more than 300 occupations. Among its focal points are public administration and law enforcement; health care; education; arts, entertainment, and media; and engineering, information technology, and science. Among its affiliated unions are the American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees, the American Federation of Teachers, the International Association of Fire Fighters, the International Federation of Professional and Technical Engineers, the United American Nurses, and the United Steelworkers.

Public safety officers – emergency medical personnel, firefighters, and law enforcement officers – risk their lives daily to protect ours. They bring to their work a special dedication and commitment and deserve a voice in shaping the conditions under which they work. The Public Safety Employer-Employee Cooperation Act of 2007 (S. 2123) will at last set minimum standards for providing these daily heroes a collective opportunity to meet with local officials, discuss their jobs, and shape the best ways to protect the public.

Introduced with broad bipartisan support and co-sponsored by more than 30 members of the Senate, S. 2123 provides a framework for discussion that allows states to tailor solutions to their needs with invaluable input from the people who do the work. In July 2007, the House of Representatives counterpart, H.R. 980, won an overwhelming majority, 314-97.

I respectfully ask that you give S. 2123 your full support. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Paul E. Almeida  
President