



September 5, 2025

The Honorable Virginia Foxx
Chair, Committee on Rules
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Mike Rogers
Chair, Committee on Armed Services
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Jim McGovern
Ranking Member,
Committee on Rules
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Adam Smith
Ranking Member,
Committee on Armed Services
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chair Foxx, Chair Rogers, Representative McGovern, and Representative Smith:

On behalf of the undersigned organizations, representing more than 300,000 federal, state, and local law enforcement officers and executives, we write to express our strong support for Amendment 490 (“9/11 Responder and Survivor Health Funding Corrections”) to H.R. 3838, the “Streamlining Procurement for Effective Execution and Delivery and National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) for Fiscal Year 2026.” We respectfully request this amendment be made in order by the Rules Committee, and urge the House to support the first responders who answered the call to duty on September 11, 2001 by approving this critical funding for the World Trade Center Health Program (WTCHP).

Next Thursday, our nation will pause as it does each September 11th to remember the lives lost 24 years ago in New York City, at the Pentagon, and in Shanksville, PA, and to recognize the service of the brave men and women who helped our nation respond to and recover from these deadly terrorist attacks. Each year, the list of those honored at these solemn events grows because federal, state, and local law enforcement officers from across the nation continue to die from 9/11 related health conditions incurred during the rescue and recovery efforts. The National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Wall of Remembrance now includes the names of 535 officers who have died from 9/11-related illnesses. Unfortunately, these numbers will only increase as more officers succumb to cancer and other long-term 9/11-related health conditions.

For more than a decade, the WTCHP has aided these first responders and their families, operating as Congress intended and as the heroes of 9/11 deserve, serving individuals in all 50 states and in 434 of the nation’s 435 congressional districts. The passage in 2015 of the *James Zadroga 9/11 Health and Compensation Act* permanently reauthorized this vital program, ensuring that those who suffered long-term health effects from the countless hours spent engaging in rescue and recovery efforts would not be forgotten. In the near future, however, the funding needs of the program will exceed the formula written into that law due to the dramatic rise in the cost of providing healthcare since the COVID-19 pandemic and an increased number of WTCHP enrollees diagnosed with a 9/11-related cancer. If the funding shortfall is not fully

addressed, the WTCHP will have to start making cuts to services and the Program will be unable to continue providing the care Congress promised for those still suffering from cancers and the other health effects of the 9/11 attacks.

For more than two decades, police officers, firefighters, and EMTs have demonstrated that the World Trade Center Health Program is essential to 9/11 responders. Amendment 490 will ensure the long-term viability of this program by providing the necessary resources to continue serving those who went forward to protect and serve others in response to the worst terrorist attack ever perpetrated against our nation. That is why we again request the inclusion of Amendment 490 in NDAA and urge all Members to support this important legislation.

Respectfully,

Association of State Criminal Investigative Agencies
FBI Agents Association
Federal Law Enforcement Officers Association
Major Cities Chiefs Association
Major County Sheriffs of America
National Association of Police Organizations
National Narcotic Officers' Associations' Coalition
Sergeants Benevolent Association NYPD