



New England Police Benevolent Association
7 Technology Drive
Chelmsford, MA 01863
www.nepba.org

CHRISTOPHER S. RYAN
President

GERALD J. FLYNN, JR.
Executive Director

March 13, 2024

To: **Chairman Thomas Stevens and Members of the House Committee on General and Housing**

Re: H.695, An act relating to survivor benefits for law enforcement officers

Members of the House Committee on General and Housing,

Please accept this letter as the written testimony of the New England Police Benevolent Association (NEPBA) and its many locals and members from across the State of Vermont with regards to the bill mentioned below.

We are in strong support of **H.695**, dealing with line of duty death benefits for law enforcement:

The above bill creates equity with other first responders who lose their lives in the line of duty. This is a reasonable measure to recognize and compensate the surviving family of these public safety heroes by allowing them to receive the same financial benefit as EMTs and firefighters.

The dangers, risks and stresses that our law enforcement community is exposed to in carrying out their duties to protect the public, whether it's in our neighborhoods, college campuses, or state correctional facilities, is growing each and every day. Yet, they still put on the uniform, report for duty and face it, as they carry out the responsibilities of their job and oath. When one of us is killed in the line of duty, a piece of all of us and in our community dies.

We strongly urge you to support this important proposal.

The NEPBA represents law enforcement officers and support personnel across Vermont. Our members span the state – they are from both large and small departments in Northern, Southern, and Central Vermont; police departments from Newport to Bennington.

Other Executive Committee Members

Executive Secretary: William Ryan **Secretary-Treasurer:** Sean R. McArdle **Recording Secretary:** Deborah A. Batista, Esq. **Sergeant-at-Arms:** Kevin L. Carlo
Executive Vice-Presidents: Ronald S. Scaccia, Thomas G. Daly, Christopher R. Hoar, Daniel B. Shea, Daniel J. Gilbert, David A. Pender



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Our locals represent the best of Vermont's working families. I write to you on behalf of these members, and on behalf of those working families.

For the above reasons, we ask that you report this bill out **favorably**.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sean R. McArdle

Sean R. McArdle
Vermont State Director
New England Police Benevolent Association

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