



SOUTH CAROLINA FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE

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Dear Members of the Senate Judiciary Committee,

As an organization deeply committed to the well-being of law enforcement officers across the state, we are writing to urgently express our support for Senate Bill 251. This legislation, seeking to amend the South Carolina Code of Laws by adding Section 42-9-50, addresses a critical need in providing benefits to first responders diagnosed with Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) resulting from significant traumatic experiences in the line of duty.

PTSD is a serious condition that can profoundly affect the capacity of our law enforcement officers to carry out their duties effectively. Senate Bill 251 acknowledges the unique challenges faced by our first responders and seeks to ensure that those diagnosed with PTSD receive the necessary benefits and clinical care required for their recovery.

The Fraternal Order of Police in South Carolina firmly believes that by actively addressing the mental wellness of our law enforcement officers, we contribute to the overall improvement of working conditions and enhance the effectiveness of those devoted to safeguarding our communities. Your support for Senate Bill 251 is paramount in acknowledging and addressing the unique challenges faced by our first responders.

We kindly request your careful consideration and support for Senate Bill 251, as it plays a crucial role in fostering a supportive environment for our law enforcement professionals, emphasizing the importance of their mental health in the line of duty. By championing this cause, we collectively contribute to the well-being of our law enforcement community and recognize the sacrifices they make to keep our communities safe.

Thank you for your time and consideration. We appreciate your dedication to the betterment of our state and the invaluable contributions of our law enforcement officers.

Sincerely,

John Blackmon
President