

April 10, 2025

The Honorable Brian Fitzpatrick United States House of Representatives Washington, D.C. 20215

Dear Representative Fitzpatrick,

On behalf of the nearly 50,000 active and retired police officers who are members of the Police Benevolent Association of the City of New York, I write to express our strong support for H.R. 911, the "Patriot Day Act."

The September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks were the deadliest in our nation's history, claiming 2,977 lives, including 23 members of the NYPD. In the almost 24 years since that fateful day, the public remembrances of our enormous loss have gradually diminished, even as the attacks continue to claim the lives of countless victims who still suffer from 9/11-related illnesses.

Every year, our nation moves closer to forgetting the extraordinary heroism of the police officers and other first responders who rushed toward danger that day and the spirit of national unity that bound every American in the face of unspeakable, shared tragedy.

We must act now to reverse this slow fade before our 9/11 victims and heroes are forgotten. A federal holiday would give every American the space for genuine reflection, uninhibited by the business of our daily lives. It would ensure that "Never Forget" is not just a slogan but a nationally recognized obligation.

On behalf of every New York City police officer, I want to thank you for introducing this legislation to help ensure that every American for generations to come will "Never Forget."

Sincerely,

Patrick Hendry President