



Major County Sheriffs of America

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Members, United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator:

In advance of votes tomorrow afternoon, we are writing on behalf of the membership of the Major County Sheriffs of America (MCSA) to advise you of our strong support for the House-passed H.R. 1327, the "Never Forget the Heroes: James Zadroga, Ray Pfeifer, and Luis Alvarez Permanent Authorization of the September 11th Victim Compensation Fund (VCF) Act." We urge you to reject the attempts that will be made to amend the bill, and to support final passage of H.R. 1327 as passed by the House on Friday, July 12, by an overwhelmingly bipartisan vote of 402-12.

The MCSA is a professional law enforcement association of elected Sheriffs representing counties or parishes with 500,000 population or more. MCSA is dedicated to preserving the highest integrity in law enforcement, corrections, and the elected Office of the Sheriff. MCSA's membership collectively represents over 100 million Americans, and works to promote a greater understanding of strategies to address future problems and identify law enforcement challenges facing members of the organization.

When the Senate considers the bill tomorrow afternoon, two amendments will be offered by your colleagues that, if adopted, will only guarantee that our nation's sick and dying first responders will be forced to return to Washington in just a few short years to once again beg Congress to do the right thing for the Heroes of 9/11. The current authorization for the VCF included the same type of cap on funding as is being proposed by your colleagues. Because of the explosion in 9/11-related cancers and other health conditions over the past 3 years, the number Congress imposed has provided to be more than just insufficient. So much so that since February, claimants have seen their award amounts cut by 50-70 percent. This is simply not the way to honor the sacrifice that so many of our Heroes continue to make for their service in helping the entire nation recover from the most heinous terrorist attack in our history.

That is why MCSA urges you in the strongest possible terms to reject the Paul and Lee amendments to H.R. 1327, and vote for final passage of the legislation as is.

Respectfully,

Sheriff Grady Judd
President
Major County Sheriffs of America

Sheriff Michael Bouchard
Vice President – Government Affairs
Major County Sheriffs of America