Federal Bureau of Investigation

Agents Association

February 15, 2019

The Honorable Jon Tester U.S. Senate SH-311 Hart Senate Office Building Washington, D.C. 20510

Re: Fair RETIRE Act of 2019

Dear Senator Tester:

On behalf of the FBI Agents Association ("FBIAA"), the professional association representing over 14,000 active and retired FBI Special Agents, I write to express our support for the Fair Return for Employees on Their Initial Retirement Earned Act (the "Fair RETIRE Act").

Because of the hazardous nature of their work, federal law enforcement officers, firefighters, and other public safety employees are covered by a retirement system, referred to as "6c" retirement, that creates an annuity that covered employees are entitled to receive after serving 20 years in a covered position and reaching the age of 50.

Unfortunately, Special Agents and other employees covered by 6c are at risk of losing their retirement benefits if they suffer disabling injuries in the line of duty that prevent them from completing their 20-year service requirement. The Fair RETIRE Act would help prevent injured Special Agents from losing the retirement benefits they have earned by allowing injured employees to retain their 6c retirement benefits if they return to work for the federal government, even if they cannot return to service in a position covered by 6c.

The Fair RETIRE Act would make critical improvements to the retirement benefit system for federal law enforcement officers that have suffered disabling injuries in the line of duty. The FBIAA looks forward to working with you on this important legislation.

Sincerely,

Thomas O'Connor President

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