

114TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1162

To ensure Federal law enforcement officers remain able to ensure their own safety, and the safety of their families, during a covered furlough.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

APRIL 30, 2015

Mr. TOOMEY introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To ensure Federal law enforcement officers remain able to ensure their own safety, and the safety of their families, during a covered furlough.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Federal Law Enforce-
5 ment Self-Defense and Protection Act of 2015”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress finds the following:

8 (1) Too often, Federal law enforcement officers
9 encounter potentially violent criminals, placing offi-
10 cers in danger of grave physical harm.

1 (2) In 2012 alone, 1,857 Federal law enforce-
2 ment officers were assaulted, with 206 sustaining se-
3 rious injuries.

4 (3) From 2008 through 2011, an additional
5 8,587 Federal law enforcement officers were as-
6 saulted.

7 (4) Federal law enforcement officers remain a
8 target even when they are off-duty. Over the past 3
9 years, 27 law enforcement officers have been killed
10 off-duty.

11 (5) It is essential that law enforcement officers
12 are able to defend themselves, so they can carry out
13 their critical missions and ensure their own personal
14 safety and the safety of their families whether on-
15 duty or off-duty.

16 (6) These dangers to law enforcement officers
17 continue to exist during a covered furlough.

18 **SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.**

19 In this Act—

20 (1) the term “agency” means each authority of
21 the executive, legislative, or judicial branch of the
22 Government of the United States;

23 (2) the term “covered Federal law enforcement
24 officer” means any individual who—

25 (A) is an employee of an agency;

1 (B) has the authority to make arrests or
 2 apprehensions for, or prosecute, violations of
 3 Federal law; and

4 (C) on the day before the date on which
 5 the applicable covered furlough begins, is au-
 6 thorized by the agency employing the individual
 7 to carry a firearm in the course of official du-
 8 ties;

9 (3) the term “covered furlough” means—

10 (A) a planned event by an agency during
 11 which employees are involuntarily furloughed
 12 due to downsizing, reduced funding, lack of
 13 work, or any budget situation other than a
 14 lapse in appropriations; and

15 (B) an event during which employees of an
 16 agency are involuntarily furloughed due to a
 17 lapse in appropriations; and

18 (4) the term “firearm” has the meaning given
 19 that term in section 921 of title 18, United States
 20 Code.

21 **SEC. 4. PROTECTING FEDERAL LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFI-**
 22 **CERS WHO ARE SUBJECTED TO A COVERED**
 23 **FURLOUGH.**

24 During a covered furlough, a covered Federal law en-
 25 forcement officer shall have the same rights to carry a

1 firearm issued by the Federal Government as if the cov-
2 ered furlough was not in effect, including, if authorized
3 on the day before the date on which the covered furlough
4 begins, the right to carry a concealed firearm, if the sole
5 reason the covered Federal law enforcement officer was
6 placed on leave was due to the covered furlough.

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