

POLICE EXECUTIVE RESEARCH FORUM,
Washington, DC, January 24, 2000.

Hon. BEN NIGHTHORSE CAMPBELL,
U.S. Senate,
Washington, DC.

DEAR SENATOR CAMPBELL: I am writing on behalf of the members of the Police Executive Research Forum (PERF) in support of your efforts to secure Congressional designation of May 15 as Peace Officers Memorial Day. PERF, an association of police executives primarily from the larger police agencies in the United States, believes that this is a fitting and appropriate tribute that honors not only those officers for their sacrifice, but their brave families, the law enforcement agencies they represented, and the grieving communities for whom they died serving. As we all work to improve American policing and the criminal justice system, it is important to remember the individual American police officers who have for nearly two centuries served our communities and all too often made the ultimate sacrifice.

Thank you for your efforts and the efforts of your colleagues in introducing this measure to honor America's law enforcement officers.

Sincerely,

CHUCK WEXLER,
Executive Director.

INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD
OF POLICE OFFICERS,
Alexandria, VA, January 20, 2000.

Hon. BEN NIGHTHORSE CAMPBELL,
U.S. Senate,
Washington, DC.

DEAR SENATOR CAMPBELL: The International Brotherhood of Police Officers (IBPO) is an affiliate of the Service Employees International Union. The IBPO is the largest police union in the AFL-CIO.

On behalf of the over 50,000 members of the IBPO, I wish to thank you for introducing legislation to designate May 15, 2000 as National Peace Officers Memorial Day. This legislation is a tribute to the more than 700,000 men and women who protect our citizens.

Your legislation serves as a solemn reminder of the sacrifice and commitment to safety that peace officers make on our behalf. In 1999 over 130 peace officers lost their lives while in the performance of their job.

As a former law enforcement official, you know firsthand the dangers these peace officers face. Your legislation not only honors the peace officers fallen in the line of duty but to their surviving families.

Once again, thank you for all your help honoring America's peace officers.

Sincerely,

KENNETH T. LYONS,
National President.

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF
POLICE ORGANIZATIONS, INC.,
Washington, DC, January 21, 2000.

Hon. BEN NIGHTHORSE CAMPBELL,
U.S. Senate,
Washington, DC.

DEAR SENATOR CAMPBELL: On behalf of the National Association of Police Organizations (NAPO), representing 4,000 unions and associations and 250,000 sworn law enforcement officers, I want to express our wholehearted support for a Senate Resolution to recognize the brave men and women of law enforcement, who have paid the ultimate sacrifice.

Every year, for one week during the month of May, the law enforcement community pays tribute and honors the fallen heroes who have died in the line of duty at the Na-

tional Law Enforcement Officers Memorial. Serving on the Board of Directors at the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund and as a former Detroit Police officer for twenty-five years, I truly appreciate a day for all Americans to recognize and commemorate, with surviving family members, those who have lost their lives in the line of duty.

Every day law enforcement officers put their lives on the line to serve and protect our communities. Over the past few years, we have experienced a steady decrease in violent crime throughout our neighborhoods and cities. However, this does not come at a small price. In 1999, approximately 135 of our Nation's finest lost their lives protecting the citizens of this country. We need to honor and remember these outstanding men and woman every year.

Thank you for your dedication in advancing the interests of the law enforcement community. I look forward to working with you in the 106th Congress. Please let me know if I can be of any assistance in the future.

Sincerely,

ROBERT T. SCULLY,
Executive Director.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR,
AND PENSIONS

Mr. GRAMS. Mr. PRESIDENT, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions be authorized to meet for a hearing on "Reducing Medical Error: A look at the IoM report" during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, January 26, 2000, at 9:30 a.m.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN
AFFAIRS

Mr. GRAMS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, January 26, 2000, to conduct a hearing on the renomination of Alan Greenspan to Chairman of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

NATIONAL BIOTECHNOLOGY MONTH

• Mr. GRAMS. Mr. President, shortly before the first session of the 106th Congress adjourned, I introduced, and the Senate passed, a resolution designating January 2000 as "National Biotechnology Month." I rise today to formally recognize National Biotechnology Month here in the Senate.

While back in Minnesota, I had the opportunity to meet with some of my constituents who are in the biotechnology industry. Whether it's agri-

cultural, medical, or environmental applications of biotechnology, Minnesota is a leader in the field.

Here are some characteristics of the biotechnology industry nationally:

Over 200 million people worldwide have been helped by the more than 80 biotechnology drug products and vaccines approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA).

There are more than 350 biotechnology drug products and vaccines currently in human clinical trials and hundreds more in early development in the United States. These medicines are designed to treat various cancers, Alzheimer's, heart disease, multiple sclerosis, AIDS, obesity and other conditions.

Biotechnology will help us feed the world by developing new and better agriculture commodities that are disease and pest resistant and offer higher yields as well.

Environmental biotechnology products make it possible to more efficiently clean up hazardous waste without the use of caustic chemicals.

Industrial biotechnology applications have led to cleaner processes with lower production of wastes and lower energy consumption, in such industrial sectors as chemicals, pulp and paper, textiles, food and fuels, metals and minerals and energy. For example, much of the denim produced in the United States is finished using biotechnology enzymes.

DNA fingerprinting, a biotech process, has dramatically improved criminal investigation and forensic medicine, as well as afforded significant advances in anthropology and wildlife management.

There are 1,283 biotechnology companies in the United States—many in Minnesota.

Market capitalization, the amount of money invested in the O.S. biotechnology industry, increased 4 percent in 1998, from \$93 billion to \$97 billion.

Approximately one-third of biotech companies employ fewer than 50 employees. More than two-thirds employ fewer than 135 people.

The U.S. biotechnology industry currently employs more than 153,000 people in high-wage, high-value jobs.

Biotechnology is one of the most research-intensive industries in the world. The U.S. biotech industry spent \$9.9 billion in research and development in 1998. The top five biotech companies spent an average of \$121,400 per employee on R&D.

Mr. President, biotechnology plays an extremely important part in my life because a little over a year ago I had an artificial valve implanted in my heart to correct a condition I had for years. Without the research and commitment of this industry, I might not have had that option available to me.

I have always been a believer in biomedical and basic scientific research