

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 2046

To amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to protect the health care benefits of retired public safety officers, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JUNE 27, 2019

Mr. PETERS introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

A BILL

To amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to protect the health care benefits of retired public safety officers, and for other purposes.

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 “Protect Health Care
5 for Retired Public Safety Officers Act of 2019”.

6 **SEC. 2. PROTECTION OF HEALTH CARE BENEFITS OF RE-**
7 **TIRED PUBLIC SAFETY OFFICERS.**

8 Title XX of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6
9 U.S.C. 601 et seq.) is amended—

10 (1) in section 2001 (6 U.S.C. 601)—

1 (A) by redesignating paragraphs (12),
2 (13), and (14) as paragraphs (14), (15), and
3 (16), respectively;

4 (B) by redesignating paragraphs (6)
5 through (11) as paragraphs (7) through (12),
6 respectively;

7 (C) by inserting after paragraph (5) the
8 following:

9 “(6) HEALTH CARE BENEFITS.—The term
10 ‘health care benefits’ means health, dental, vision,
11 prescription, and other insurance benefits.”; and

12 (D) by inserting after paragraph (12), as
13 so redesignated, the following:

14 “(13) PUBLIC SAFETY OFFICER.—The term
15 ‘public safety officer’ means an employee of a public
16 agency—

17 “(A) who is a law enforcement officer, fire-
18 fighter, or an emergency medical services re-
19 sponder; and

20 “(B) whose conditions of employment are
21 determined in accordance with a collective bar-
22 gaining agreement.”; and

23 (2) in section 2004(b)(2) (6 U.S.C.
24 605(b)(2))—

1 (A) in subparagraph (B), by striking
2 “and” at the end;

3 (B) in subparagraph (C), by striking the
4 period at the end and inserting “; and”; and

5 (C) by adding at the end the following:

6 “(D) a written certification stating that
7 the State shall not—

8 “(i) unilaterally modify or eliminate
9 the health care benefits for a public safety
10 officer retiree, as established pursuant to
11 the collective bargaining agreement in ef-
12 fect at the time of retirement of the public
13 safety officer; or

14 “(ii) allocate grant funds to a local
15 government or Indian tribe that has not
16 certified to the State that the health care
17 benefits for a public safety officer retiree,
18 as established pursuant to the collective
19 bargaining agreement in effect at the time
20 of retirement of the public safety officer,
21 shall not be unilaterally modified or elimi-
22 nated.”.

○