

Cosponsor the Fire Fighters and EMS Employer-Employee Cooperation Act

Dear Colleague,

Senators Hickenlooper and Hassan invite you to cosponsor the *Fire Fighters and EMS Employer-Employee Cooperation Act* to ensure fire fighters and emergency medical personnel have basic collective bargaining rights in every state. Our fire fighters and EMS personnel put their lives on the line every day to keep our communities safe. Yet in 16 states, these public safety employees currently do not have the ability collectively bargain for safe working conditions. In fact, in five states, they do not even have the ability to form a union.

The Cooperation Act would set a federal floor for basic collective bargaining rights in states that do not currently provide them, while allowing states wide flexibility to write and administer their own laws, consistent with the minimum standards outlined in the bill such as: the right to form and join a union; the right to bargain over working conditions including wages and hours of work; and a formalized process to resolve disputes.

States in which laws are consistent with the minimum standards of the Act, or where laws exceed the Act's minimum standards, would not be impacted.

Our firefighters and EMS personnel work every day to protect our families and children. This legislation would ensure that we do right by them by preserving their rights and voice on the job.

Please join me in cosponsoring the *Fire Fighters and EMS Employer-Employee Cooperation Act* to support our nation's fire fighters and emergency medical personnel.

To sign on or if you have any questions, please contact Mike Waske (Michael_Waske@help.senate.gov) of my staff.

Sincerely,

John Hickenlooper
United States Senator