



## International Brotherhood of Police Officers

A DIVISION OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES

Date: May 14, 2026

Memo To: House Committee on Judiciary

From: John J Rossi, National Representative,  
International Brotherhood of Police Officers (IBPO)

RE: H-8502 – Victim Proximity – In Favor.

The International Brotherhood of Police Officers strongly supports **House Bill 8502**, which prohibits those people convicted of sex offenses from living within proximity to their victim's residences, workplaces or schools and automatically prohibits them from having any direct or indirect contact with their victims.

In my 23-year career as a police officer with the East Providence Police Department, with the last 10 years of my career as a Detective Corporal in the Major Crimes Unit. I have investigated innumerable sex offenses. Those investigations usually concluded with arrests of the perpetrators of these crimes and the subsequent conviction of these individuals.

After the adjudication of these crimes and subsequent penalties imposed on the defendants and many times their incarceration there always remains the victim of these heinous crimes. The victims serve a lifetime sentence for the unspeakable violations committed against them.

Most criminals who are convicted of sex offense eventually are released from prison, and yet the victims continue to cope with the crimes committed against them. This bill would address the victim's right to remain free of the possibility of their offenders living near them, their workplaces or schools. The victims would also be free of any possibility of having their offenders contact them.

The IBPO strongly and unequivocally supports House Bill 8502.

Respectfully Submitted

John Rossi  
National Representative  
International Brotherhood of Police Officers

