

For Immediate Release: January 5, 2025 <u>Contact</u>: Melanie Tuberman <u>MTuberman@fionahuttonassoc.com</u> (607) 744-0784

PORAC Attends Landmark Signing of *Social Security Fairness Act*, Repealing GPO/WEP After 40 Years of Advocacy

Largest statewide law enforcement association in the nation celebrates bill signed by the President that will restore fair Social Security benefits for America's peace officers and public servants

Sacramento, CA – Today, Brian R. Marvel, President of the <u>Peace Officers Research Association of</u> <u>California</u> (PORAC), the largest statewide law enforcement association in the nation, proudly attended and celebrated the bill signing of the <u>Social Security Fairness Act (H.R. 82)</u> at the White House. This historic legislation finally repeals the Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP) and the Government Pension Offset (GPO), restoring long-denied Social Security benefits to millions of peace officers, teachers, firefighters, and public servants across the United States.

"For more than forty years, PORAC has championed the fight to repeal WEP and GPO, which have unfairly penalized public servants by depriving them of their earned Social Security benefits," **said Brian R. Marvel, President of PORAC.** "Standing in the White House today, witnessing the President sign the *Social Security Fairness Act* into law, was an incredibly proud and humbling moment. I am deeply grateful to the President, the bill's authors, our bipartisan coalition of advocates, and all the PORAC leaders before me who made this momentous achievement possible. This bill becoming law will make a meaningful and tangible difference for the peace officers across the nation who will now receive the benefits they've earned, creating financial stability in retirement for those who spent their careers putting the safety of others above their own."

The Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP) and the Government Pension Offset (GPO) have negatively impacted more than 3 million peace officers, teachers, firefighters, postal workers, and other public employees for decades – unfairly reducing or eliminating the Social Security benefits they have rightfully earned during their working years simply because they also receive a government pension.

The Social Security Fairness Act, co-led by Representatives Garrett Graves (R-LA) and Abigail Spanberger (D-VA), along with Senators Sherrod Brown (D-OH) and Susan Collins (R-ME), garnered broad bipartisan support, with 330 cosponsors in the House and 62 in the Senate. After its decisive passage through Congress, the President's signature marks the culmination of decades of tireless advocacy.

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About the Peace Officers Research Association of California:

The Peace Officers Research Association of California (PORAC) was incorporated in 1953 as a professional federation of local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies. PORAC represents over 83,000 public safety members and over 955 associations, making it the largest law enforcement organization in California and the largest statewide association in the nation.