



NEW YORK STATE FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE

LOYAL KNIGHTS OF NEW YORK
LODGE #222
P.O. Box 130153
New York, New York 10013

Dear Representative,

I am a resident of your District and am writing to ask for your support of H.R. 5674, a bill that requires the Bureau of Prisons (BOP) make accessible to its employees gun storage lockers at prison facilities.

I am an employee of the Federal Bureau of Prisons (BOP) and work at the Metropolitan Correctional Center (MCC). Although I can legally carry a firearm off-duty the BOP forbids all its employees from storing their personal weapons at the prison while they are on duty. Currently it is unlawful for us to store our weapons on the property to include in our personal vehicles in the parking lot. The result is no employees of the MCC are able to travel to or from work armed. This puts me at risk since my shift is known to the inmate population. I also often run in to inmates' families and social visitors while I enter or leave the prison. It also means I and my co-workers, who overwhelmingly take public transportation, are unable to make the trains, buses, and subways safer by traveling armed. Remember we work all shifts every day of the year and travel from all areas of the state to our prison located in downtown Manhattan. By supporting this bill you could add hundreds of trained armed Federal Officers on our transit system at no cost to the taxpayer.

All BOP prisons have on site gun lockers already available for the storage of weapons. When law enforcement or visitors with gun permits enter the prisons they first place their issued or personal weapons in these existing gun lockers, the BOP simply won't extend this option to its own employees. Please support this bill so that I can be safe and be able to keep others safe on my daily commute to and from the prison.

Sincerely,