

118TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 5798

To restore the right to negotiate matters pertaining to the discipline of law enforcement officers of the District of Columbia through collective bargaining, to restore the statute of limitations for bringing disciplinary cases against members or civilian employees of the Metropolitan Police Department of the District of Columbia, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 28, 2023

Mr. GARBARINO (for himself and Mr. D’ESPOSITO) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability

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## A BILL

To restore the right to negotiate matters pertaining to the discipline of law enforcement officers of the District of Columbia through collective bargaining, to restore the statute of limitations for bringing disciplinary cases against members or civilian employees of the Metropolitan Police Department of the District of Columbia, 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 “Protecting Our Na-  
5 tion’s Capital Emergency Act of 2023”.

1 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS; PURPOSE.**

2 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

3 (1) As of September 25, 2023, Washington,  
4 DC, had recorded 24,996 crimes committed within  
5 the city limits, up 30 percent or almost 5,400 crimes  
6 from the same date in 2022.

7 (2) As of September 25, 2023, 197 homicides  
8 had been committed in Washington, DC, up 29 per-  
9 cent from the same date in 2022 and nearly twice  
10 the total number of homicides in 2012.

11 (3) As of September 25, 2023, violent crime in-  
12 cidents in Washington, DC, are up over 37 percent  
13 from the same time in 2022, including 120 reports  
14 of sexual abuse (up 1 percent) and 2,545 reports of  
15 robberies (up 65 percent).

16 (4) As of September 25, 2023, there have been  
17 5,262 reports of motor vehicle thefts in Washington,  
18 DC, up 107 percent from the same date in 2022.

19 (5) The Metropolitan Police Department of the  
20 District of Columbia has lost over 1,200 members  
21 since 2020. The total number of members is down  
22 478 since 2020 and the staffing levels at the De-  
23 partment are the lowest they have been in over 50  
24 years.

25 (b) PURPOSE.—It is the purpose of this Act to com-  
26 bat the rise in violent crime in our Nation’s Capital by

1 eliminating policies which place law enforcement personnel  
2 of the District of Columbia at risk and discourage them  
3 from serving, ensuring that such personnel will be treated  
4 equitably and fairly and the recruitment and retention of  
5 such personnel shall be increased.

6 **SEC. 3. RESTORATION OF EQUITABLE AND FAIR TREAT-**  
7 **MENT OF LAW ENFORCEMENT PERSONNEL**  
8 **OF DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.**

9 (a) RESTORATION OF RIGHT TO NEGOTIATE MAT-  
10 TERS PERTAINING TO DISCIPLINE OF DISTRICT OF CO-  
11 LUMBIA LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS THROUGH COL-  
12 LECTIVE BARGAINING.—Section 1708 of the District of  
13 Columbia Government Comprehensive Merit Personnel  
14 Act of 1978 (sec. 1–617.08, D.C. Official Code), as  
15 amended by section 116(b) of the Comprehensive Policing  
16 and Justice Reform Amendment Act of 2022 (D.C. Law  
17 24–345), is amended by striking subsection (c).

18 (b) RESTORATION OF STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS FOR  
19 CLAIMS AGAINST MEMBERS OR CIVILIAN EMPLOYEES OF  
20 METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT.—Subtitle M of  
21 title I of the Comprehensive Policing and Justice Reform  
22 Amendment Act of 2022 (D.C. Law 24–345) is repealed,  
23 and any provision of law amended or repealed by such sub-

- 1 title is restored or revived as if such subtitle had not been
- 2 enacted into law.

