

## Konrad Jackson

---

**From:** a whitt [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, June 04, 2016 8:17 AM  
**To:** House Labor and Commerce  
**Subject:** Support - HB 4002

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

My name is Aaron Whitt. I am a peace officer in Alaska and have over 25 years of full time law enforcement experience.

I am providing this testimony in support of HB 4002 – Line of Duty Death Survivor Benefit bill.

Over the course of my career I have witnessed how tragedy can strike down those who stand in the gap between the relative serenity of everyday life and the chaos that can occur when things go horribly wrong. Fortunately these occurrences do not happen everyday. But when they do, this is NOT the time to abandon the surviving family members.

I ask for your support of HB 4002 as it proposes to provide immediate, premium-free, health benefits for the surviving spouse and/or children of a peace officer or firefighter who is killed in the line of duty.

HB 4002 is one way to recognize the greatness of selfless sacrifice and memorialize these acts of heroism. The professional men and women of law enforcement and firefighters are prepared for that day, if or when it comes. I ask that HB 4002 be there for their surviving dependents.

Thank you for your consideration.

Aaron Whitt

Anchorage Alaska

## Konrad Jackson

---

**From:** Matt and Angie <angieandmatt@msn.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, June 03, 2016 11:28 PM  
**To:** House Labor and Commerce  
**Subject:** Hb4002

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Please pass this bill!!! It's embarrassing that our state would leave families of fallen law enforcement officers high and dry. Medical coverage is not very expensive but very meaningful to these families. Please do the right thing for these Brave families.

Angie Fraize  
Chugiak ak.

Sent from my iPhone

## Konrad Jackson

---

**From:** Brad Johnson <bejohnson@ci.fairbanks.ak.us>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 25, 2016 3:23 PM  
**To:** Rep. Kurt Olson  
**Cc:** Rep. Shelley Hughes; Rep. Jim Colver; Rep. Gabrielle LeDoux; Rep. Cathy Tilton; Rep. Andy Josephson; Rep. Sam Kito; Rep. Mike Chenault  
**Subject:** HB 4002 Support.docx  
**Attachments:** HB 4002 Support.pdf

**Follow Up Flag:** Flag for follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

AACOP Letter of support for HB 4002

---

May 25, 2016

The Honorable Kurt Olson  
House of Representatives

State Capitol Room 24

Juneau AK, 99801

[Representative.Kurt.Olson@akleg.gov](mailto:Representative.Kurt.Olson@akleg.gov)

Dear Representative Olson,

I am writing this letter in my capacity as President of the Alaska Association of Chiefs of Police. Our association comprises over 100 police chiefs and senior law enforcement executives across the State of Alaska and we strongly support House Bill 4002: *“An Act relating to major medical insurance coverage under the Public Employees’ Retirement System of Alaska for certain surviving spouses and dependent children of peace officers and firefighters; and providing for an effective date”*.

Our members believe that this important legislation helps provide critically needed health care to the surviving family members of our public safety heroes who have given their lives in selfless service to our communities and state. It is imperative that we provide these families with secure, stable, health care coverage after suffering such tremendous loss.

We would be pleased to work with your staff to insure that HB 4002 is passed, and encourage you or other members of the committee to contact either myself at [bejohnson@ci.fairbanks.ak.us](mailto:bejohnson@ci.fairbanks.ak.us) or our Vice-President Michael Holman, by email at [mholman@ci.unalaska.ak.us](mailto:mholman@ci.unalaska.ak.us) should there be some way we can be of assistance in that regard. Thank you for your dedication to the people of Alaska and your support of the law enforcement community.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Brad Johnson", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Sincerely,

Brad Johnson

President

## Konrad Jackson

---

**From:** Cindy Rymer <rymercindy@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, June 04, 2016 7:42 AM  
**To:** House Labor and Commerce

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

I am in favor of hb4002. Please pass this bill

Cindy Rymer

## Konrad Jackson

---

**From:** Cook Family <cookfamily@mtaonline.net>  
**Sent:** Saturday, June 04, 2016 7:15 AM  
**To:** Rep. Kurt Olson  
**Subject:** HB 4002

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Representative Olson,

PLEASE PASS HB 4002 OUT OF HOUSE LABOR AND COMMERCE COMMITTEE!

VR,

The Cook Family

Daniel Hoffman  
951 Cranberry Ridge Drive  
Fairbanks, AK  
99712

June 4, 2016

Honorable members of the House Labor and Commerce Committee:

Hello! My name is Dan Hoffman. I've been a resident of the State of Alaska since my dad moved our family up here in 1977, attending Jr. High in Valdez, High School in Anchorage, and then attending the University of Alaska Fairbanks. After graduating from college I went to work for the Fairbanks Police Department, where I spent the next twenty years serving our local community. I retired as Chief of Police in March of 2009, and immediately went to work at Pogo Mine, supervising the Security and Risk Management functions here. I'm currently onsite at our remote mine and cannot call in to today's hearing; I'm hoping that this letter can be read into the record of public-comments.

I'm writing today in regards to **SB4002**, which would provide health insurance benefits to the family members of fallen police officers and firefighters. As a career public safety professional who has lost several close friends to senseless violence, (including my coworker, FPD Officer John "Kevin" Lamm, who was shot to death on New Year's day 1998 in Fairbanks; and most recently a very close friend- Fairbanks based Trooper Sergeant Scott Johnson, who was killed along with Trooper Gabe Rich in Tanana two years ago) **I find it unconscionable that the State is not "stepping up to do the right thing" in assuring that these men's families are being properly taken care of.**

As someone who served in a position of public administration, to include formulation and implementation of publicly-funded budgets, I have a TREMENDOUS amount of admiration - and empathy - for the challenges that you are currently facing. In what is arguably the most difficult time in Alaska's fiscal history, I know that there are no shortages of detractors and nay-sayers when ANY budget proposition (and/or expenditure) is proposed. That being said, I feel that there are certain obligations that should be met solely on the matter of principle. And, in this case, that highly-principled matter happens to coincide with a "benefit-group" that is EXCEEDINGLY SMALL in size, having a negligible impact on the State's overall budget.

**I am very respectfully asking that you PLEASE support the health-care provisions outlined in SB4002.** The families of our departed heroes deserve no less, and I believe the vast majority of Alaskan's strongly support this measure.

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dan Hoffman". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Daniel Hoffman  
City of Fairbanks Chief of Police (Ret.)

## Konrad Jackson

---

**From:** David Behr <davidabehr1951@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, June 04, 2016 5:57 AM  
**To:** House Labor and Commerce  
**Subject:** Health Benefits for family members of deceased firefighters and police

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

To Whom it may concern: I support Governor Walkers HB 4002 for it is the right thing to do for the families who have lost their bread winners while serving our state.

David and Ai-Mei Behr  
1620 Golden View Dr.  
Fairbanks, Ak. 99709



## Konrad Jackson

---

**From:** Gerald Brookman <brookman@alaska.net>  
**Sent:** Saturday, June 04, 2016 9:18 AM  
**To:** House Labor and Commerce  
**Subject:** HB 4002

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

I support the passage, without any weakening amendments, of this bill. Please vote in favor of it and the other common-sense bills introduced by Governor Walker.

Gerald R. Brookman, 715 Muir Ave., Kenai, AK 99611

## Konrad Jackson

---

**From:** Gerard Asselin <president@apdea.org>  
**Sent:** Friday, June 03, 2016 10:54 PM  
**To:** Rep. Kurt Olson; Rep. Shelley Hughes; Rep. Jim Colver; Rep. Gabrielle LeDoux; Rep. Cathy Tilton; Rep. Andy Josephson; Rep. Sam Kito; Rep. Mike Chenault  
**Subject:** HB4002  
**Attachments:** APDEA Support HB4002\_house\_05252016.pdf

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Greetings House Labor and Commerce Members,

I understand that you will be accepting public testimony on HB4002. I am writing to you in support of this important bill.

I represent all the Officers, Detectives and Sergeants who proudly serve with the Anchorage Police Department. Each one of them raised their hand and swore to protect and serve their community, regardless of the risk or peril they face. Yes, the risk is known; that does not alleviate our collective responsibility to provide a small measure of comfort for they and their families should they suffer the ultimate sacrifice. Please keep in mind that it is not only the officers who sacrifice but so do their families. As a state, we owe those family members. Providing for health insurance will help to alleviate many unnecessary worries.

Please find the attached letter which I submitted recently. I do not see that it was attached to the record. Please do so as a formal submission of testimony on my part.

As always, I am available to answer questions.

Thanks,  
Gerard



**Sgt. Gerard Asselin** | APDEA President  
[president@apdea.org](mailto:president@apdea.org) | [www.apdea.net](http://www.apdea.net)  
907.952.1098 | PO Box 230330, Anchorage AK 99523



500 W. International Airport Road  
P.O. Box 230330, Anchorage, AK 99523  
907-561-7500 | [www.apdea.net](http://www.apdea.net)

---

May 25, 2016

Rep. Mike Chenault, Speaker of the House  
Rep. Charisee Millett, Majority Leader  
Rep. Chris Tuck, Minority Leader  
Rep. Kurt Olson, Labor and Commerce – Chair  
Rep. Shelley Hughes, Labor and Commerce – Co-Chair

Dear House Members,

I am writing you today as the President of the Anchorage Police Department Employees Association (APDEA). In that capacity, I proudly represent the majority of the employees at the Anchorage Police Department, including nearly 360 sworn law enforcement professionals. I have followed the progression of HB66 (now reintroduced as HB4002) with great concern and interest, and the employees of the Anchorage Police Department are grateful for your collective consideration of this important legislation.

As you are well aware, our public safety professionals have dedicated themselves to putting their own safety on the line to protect and serve our Alaska citizens. This dedication extends well beyond individual officers to include their families, as spouses and children are keenly aware of the dangers associated with the profession. It is despite these risks that they step up together to support a career of service to our communities.

We are now faced with an opportunity to right a wrong; to offer a degree of security to the loved ones left behind when an officer pays the ultimate sacrifice. The passage of this bill will provide a small measure of assurance to public safety practitioners and their families in knowing that their health insurance needs will be covered should an officer die in the line of duty.

Please let me know how the APDEA can be of assistance in any way to assure the passage of this important legislation.

Sincerely,

Sergeant Gerard Asselin  
President  
Anchorage Police Department Employees Association

PO Box 230330  
Anchorage, AK 99523  
(907) 952-1098  
[president@apdea.org](mailto:president@apdea.org)

## Konrad Jackson

---

**From:** Jack Berdeaux <jack.berdeaux@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, June 04, 2016 5:36 AM  
**To:** House Labor and Commerce  
**Subject:** Public comments on HB4002 Heath Care Bill

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

I support HB4002 which will provide major medical insurance coverage under the Public Employees' Retirement System of Alaska for certain surviving spouses and dependent children of peace officers and firefighters who are killed in the line of duty (HB 4002).

All employers should be required to continue to provide health benefits to the spouse and dependents of peace officers and firefighters who are killed in the line of duty. This benefit is not to cease upon remarriage. Minor dependents shall continue to receive the benefits under the coverage provided to the surviving spouse, or, if there is no surviving spouse, until 21 years of age. The spouse should not be allowed to add a new spouse or stepchildren as family members under the continued health benefits coverage of the surviving spouse.

The State of Alaska has a duty of care, i.e. the state has a moral duty to protect, extending to the protection and welfare of dependents of those which give their lives to protect its citizens.

Jack berdeaux

--

Jack Berdeaux, Ed.D.  
Disability Advocate

"Imagination is more important than knowledge."

- Albert Einstein

## Konrad Jackson

---

**From:** keclark@gci.net  
**Sent:** Friday, June 03, 2016 11:20 PM  
**To:** House Labor and Commerce  
**Subject:** Bill HB4002

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

I strongly agree that HB4002 should become law. Immediate families of Police, Firemen and emergency responders killed in the line of should receive medical benefits.

Kenneth Clark  
961 W. Gail Drive  
Wasilla, AK 99654  
Telephone 907-373-0666  
E-mail keclark@gci.net

## Konrad Jackson

---

**From:** Linda Shore <sharasmom@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, June 04, 2016 5:50 AM  
**To:** House Labor and Commerce  
**Subject:** HB4002

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Good morning, folks,

I would encourage you to vote to pass HB4002 and provide for the families of our first responders who die in the line of duty. It's bad enough that the survivors have lost their family member, we can at least give them some security on the health care front.

I think they have enough "skin in the game", Senator McGuire. Just saying.

Sincerely,

Linda Shore  
Anchorage

--

There's nothing so good for the inside of a man as the outside of a horse....Lord Palmerston

## Konrad Jackson

---

**From:** Mary Bristol <akbristol@gci.net>  
**Sent:** Saturday, June 04, 2016 12:55 AM  
**To:** House Labor and Commerce  
**Subject:** HB4002

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Please pass HB4002.

The families of our law enforcement officers make huge sacrifices for our safety. They deserve this protection.

Mary Bristol  
907-333-6725  
Anchorage

Sent from my iPhone

## Konrad Jackson

---

**From:** Nancy Dahlstrom <nancy@gci.net>  
**Sent:** Saturday, June 04, 2016 7:43 AM  
**To:** House Labor and Commerce  
**Subject:** HB4002

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Dear Former Colleagues,

I urge you to pass from committee today HP 4002 which benefits surviving spouses and families of our Public Safety officers.

I am unable to call in and testify today but I would like it on record that I have the upmost respect for the men and women who put their lives in harms way each day to protect us.

Please support HB4002 to complete passage. This will not bring back the fallen family members but will provide some peace and comfort.

Sincerely  
Nancy Dahlstrom

Sent from my iPhone, please disregard typo's or word changes.



## Konrad Jackson

---

**From:** Gerard & Rebecca Asselin [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, June 04, 2016 7:50 AM  
**To:** House Labor and Commerce  
**Subject:** HB4002

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Alaska Legislators,

I am married to an Anchorage Police Sergeant. We have been married for 19 years, and have 3 young children.

My husband has been working for APD for 19 years. It has been something he has aspired to do since he was young. I am proud to support him in accomplishing his goal & furthering his career at APD.

What is utterly disappointing to my family, the APD family and all of Alaska's law enforcement & fire fighter families, is the failure of the State to support us if our spouse dies in the line of duty. Providing insurance for the family left behind of a fallen hero is a small way to show respect to the sacrifices given. What a comfort it would be to me, to know I would not have to worry about being dropped from our insurance the very month my husband died.

This bill has the public's support. It will make a difference to a family in their greatest time of need and sorrow.

Alaska is a state known for helping others in times of need. Don't leave our public safety families out in the elements, without coverage.

Do the right thing.

Respectfully,

Rebecca Asselin

Sent from my iPhone

## Konrad Jackson

---

**From:** Ron Holmstrom <holmstrom@alaskalife.net>  
**Sent:** Saturday, June 04, 2016 6:47 AM  
**To:** House Labor and Commerce  
**Subject:** HB 4002

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Please extend benefits to the families of officers who fell in the line of duty.  
It is the right thing to do.

Ron Holmstrom  
Anchorage

**From:** [Sally Schlichting](#)  
**To:** [House Labor and Commerce](#)  
**Subject:** Support for HB 4002  
**Date:** Saturday, June 04, 2016 8:44:41 AM

---

I strongly support this bill that would extend insurance coverage for surviving spouses and children of peace officers and fire fighters killed in the line of duty. It's appalling to me that we don't do this already.

Sincerely,

Sally Schlichting

419 Kennedy Street

Juneau, AK

## Konrad Jackson

---

**From:** Sherill Baxter <sherill@gci.net>  
**Sent:** Friday, June 03, 2016 3:04 PM  
**To:** Rep. Kurt Olson  
**Subject:** HB 4002

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

I am asking for your support in passing HB 4002. These officers put their lives on the lines. Their families deserve this coverage. Hopefully it is something that will not have to be used a lot.

Thank you for your support

Sherill Baxter  
401 5th St  
Douglas, Alaska 99824

Sent from my iPad

## Konrad Jackson

---

**From:** Steve Adams <smokey3@gci.net>  
**Sent:** Saturday, June 04, 2016 5:20 AM  
**To:** House Labor and Commerce  
**Subject:** HB4002

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

This bill needs to pass, because it's the right thing to do, for all the right reasons.

Please, get it passed!

Steve Adams



Virus-free. [www.avast.com](http://www.avast.com)

## Konrad Jackson

---

**From:** SHAUN & TERI KUZAKIN [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, June 03, 2016 1:17 PM  
**To:** Rep. Kurt Olson  
**Subject:** HB 4002

Dear Rep. Olson,

I'm writing you today to encourage you to pass HB 4002 and provide health insurance to families of law enforcement officers killed in the line of duty. This bill is especially important to me as my husband is an Alaska State Trooper. To me, and to many other residents of the State of Alaska, this is a brainless decision. These men and women, especially Alaska State Troopers, perform unique duties. Many in which law enforcement around the US do not perform. In our world today, being a law enforcement officer is a thankless job. All you have to do is look at the news to see that it's all out-war on the men and women in blue.

For several years now, the families of Sgt. Scott Johnson, Trooper Gabe Rich, and Trooper Tage Toll, have had to come down every session and plead their case for health benefits to continue. Can you imagine how hard that is for these families? To be stuck in time. To not be able to move forward and try to get through the grieving process? To relive that pain over and over again? It's time to pass this legislation. It's time to stop stalling. Time to stop trying to kill this bill. Do the right thing.

If that state wants to look at options for other employees, that's fine. But do it during another session. Get this bill passed to protect the men and women in blue. Don't you think they deserve it? They are already paid under market value. At this point, the Alaska State Troopers have already lost 30+ troopers since January 2016. This at a time when they are already short boots on the ground. If they had more boots on the ground, there is the chance that Sgt. Johnson and Trooper Rich would still be with us today. They should have never responded to a gun call like that with just two of them. The fiscal note on this bill is so minimal in the grand scheme of things. So what if state employees have to avoid buying chairs and desks for a few years. Everyone should make a sacrifice. These men and women are Every day.

Please, take the time to pass this bill. It's the right thing to do. Stop making these families fight for something that should have been in place long long ago. Would you rest easier at night if you knew your family was taken care of? Or would you want them to go through what Brandy and Nikki have had to go through. Coming down, retelling their story. Reliving that pain? I'm going to take a guess that you would never want your family to endure that pain.

Thank you for your time.

Teri

## Konrad Jackson

---

**From:** Terrance Vraniak <WhiteTeam33@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, June 04, 2016 12:56 AM  
**To:** House Labor and Commerce  
**Subject:** Benefits for fallen police and fireman

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

I did not know until the recent issue in Tanana that our police and fireman's families did not have benefits when their husband or wife lost their lives in the line of duty. This is a disgrace. Anytime anyone puts their lives on the line for the protection of the innocent in society, their families should be automatically protected if they lose their lives. This is one of the costs of freedom that is acceptable. If we can give politicians benefits for life having just served only one term and never putting their lives on the line, we should definitely take care of the people that put their lives on the line daily basis. If we need to find funding to support that issue, then it should be taken from the benefits given to the politicians by limiting what they get based on their actual years served. Year for year and no more all the way to Washington. tv

## Konrad Jackson

---

**From:** timandmindy@mtaonline.net  
**Sent:** Saturday, June 04, 2016 12:08 AM  
**To:** House Labor and Commerce  
**Subject:** Law enforcement line of duty death survival benefits

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

This bill is a no brainer. The LEO sacrifices in numerous ways to serve the public and to disrespect the spouse and children in NOT supporting this bill would be a disgrace. Let's do the RIGHT thing and pass this legislation...

Sincerely,  
Retired LEO  
Tim McCulley

Sent from my iPhone



## Konrad Jackson

---

**From:** Tom Conley <luddite105@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, June 03, 2016 11:15 PM  
**To:** House Labor and Commerce  
**Subject:** Medical Insurance for Survivors of Peace Officers & Firefighters Killed in the Line of Duty

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

I commend and support the Governor's proposal to extend no-fee medical insurance to the spouse or significant other and dependent children of any Alaskan Peace Officer or Firefighter who is killed in the line of duty. These brave souls run toward danger to protect all of us and the least we can do is to protect & support their surviving dependent, Typically police and firemen are relatively young men and women with young families, so their lot is a particularly hard one in these circumstances and their need for the provision of free insurance particularly acute.

It is the just & charitable thing to do and even in these financially times we can and should afford it.

Thomas L Conley MD,FAAP  
Sitka School Board

## Konrad Jackson

---

**From:** virginia shook <vshook@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, June 04, 2016 8:21 AM  
**To:** House Labor and Commerce  
**Subject:** Survivor Insurance Benefits

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

Please support the survivors of our fallen State Employees. If the legislators receive medical benefits for themselves and their families they need to pass this bill so that peace officer/firefighters families are covered. After all these people made the ultimate sacrifice while the legislators do nothing but fight with the Governor and they don't deserve these benefits while not fulfilling their job duties!



# ALASKA CORRECTIONAL OFFICERS ASSOCIATION

*"Walking Alaska's Toughest Beat"*

June 3, 2016

Re: HB 4002 Letter of Support

Representative Olson,

Every time the spouse or child of an Alaska Peace Officer or Firefighter kisses their loved one goodbye as he/she leaves for work, they try not to think of the possibility that they may never see them again. However, they also realize next May, at the Police Memorial Day ceremony, they could be among those listening to the mournful wail of a bagpipe and the sound of a bugle, tearfully waiting for their loved one's name to be read, and to receive a single red rose and the thanks of Alaska for their service. The loss of a Peace Officer or Fireman is always tragic. The grieving that follows is also accompanied with the reality and stress of having to now meet all the families' needs alone. How to provide medical insurance is a large and stressful concern.

Providing health insurance to the grieving families of fallen Alaska Peace Officers and Firefighters killed in the line of duty is the right thing to do. Your vote and help passing House Bill 4002 is needed to ease the burden on the families going through unimaginable pain and hardship. Please help these families by not adding the additional stress of losing their insurance as well as their loved one. The men and women of the Alaska Correctional Officers Association and their spouses and dependents encourage you to support the passage and enactment of House Bill 4002 to provide major medical insurance coverage for the surviving spouses and dependent children of Peace Officers and Firefighters killed in the line of duty.

Brad Wilson

Business Manager

Alaska Correctional Officers Association



## ALASKA FIRE CHIEF'S ASSOCIATION

One Sealaska Plaza, Suite 200 Juneau, Alaska 99801

(907) 586-1325 Fax (907) 463-5480

[www.alaskafirechiefs.org](http://www.alaskafirechiefs.org)

---

Monday, May 23, 2016

The Honorable Representative Kurt Olson  
Chair, House Labor & Commerce Committee  
Alaska State Capitol Room 24  
Juneau, Alaska 99801

Reference: HB 4002 "An Act relating to major medical insurance coverage under the Public Employees' Retirement System of Alaska for certain surviving spouses and dependent children of peace officers and firefighters; and providing for an effective date."

Dear Representative Olson,

On behalf of the Alaska Fire Chiefs Association I would like to ask for your support for House Bill 4002 which will provide major medical insurance coverage for the qualifying spouses and dependent children of peace officers and firefighters who give their lives in the service of the State and their communities.

Unlike other professions peace officers and firefighter face the possibility of risking their lives every time they are called out to provide service. If one of these men or women tragically lose their lives in the line of duty we feel it is incumbent for the State to provide major medical insurance coverage to assist the families they leave behind. This is a small thing that can go a long way in supporting a family after such a tragic loss.

Thank you for your support in the past for peace officers and firefighters and please consider supporting this incredibly important piece of legislation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jeff Tucker", with a large, sweeping loop at the end.

Jeff Tucker, Fire Chief  
1<sup>st</sup> Vice President  
Alaska Fire Chiefs Association



May 26, 2016

The Honorable Kurt Olson  
House of Representatives  
State Capitol Room 24  
Juneau AK, 99801  
Representative.Kurt.Olson@akleg.gov

Dear Representative Olson:

On behalf of the Alaska Peace Officers Association (APOA), I am writing to convey our strong support of HB 4002 to provide health coverage to surviving spouses and children of peace officers and firefighters. While our backing of this legislation is not new, having supported it since its original filing as HB 66 during the first session of this legislature, we again strongly urge you and your colleagues to support its passage. The bill's inclusion during this special session clearly demonstrates the importance of providing this critical coverage to the families of those who have served our state and its communities so selflessly. Please take advantage of this opportunity to correct a deficiency that has affected these families for far too long.

As a state we owe every assurance to our law enforcement officers and firefighters that medical care will be available to their spouses and children should the unthinkable happen. Show your dedication and concern for surviving families and agree on this fundamental and overdue need to protect the families of our fallen heroes.

Please contact the APOA office in Anchorage at 277-0515 if there is anything our organization can do to help with the passage of this important bill.

Sincerely,

Brad Johnson  
State President  
Alaska Peace Officers Association

PO Box 240106  
Anchorage, AK 99524  
[apoa@gci.net](mailto:apoa@gci.net)  
(907)277-0515

*About APOA*

*The Alaska Peace Officers Association (APOA) is a dynamic, professional and fraternal organization. Our membership consists of law enforcement, corrections, prosecutors, security professionals and others at the local, state and federal levels. APOA has served as a voice for peace officers and issues impacting the law enforcement profession for over half a century. We are one of the oldest and largest 501(c)3 charitable, nonprofit organizations in Alaska. [www.apoaonline.org](http://www.apoaonline.org)*



# Alaska Association of Chiefs of Police

May 25, 2016

The Honorable Kurt Olson  
House of Representatives  
State Capitol Room 24  
Juneau AK, 99801  
[Representative.Kurt.Olson@akleg.gov](mailto:Representative.Kurt.Olson@akleg.gov)

Dear Representative Olson,

I am writing this letter in my capacity as President of the Alaska Association of Chiefs of Police. Our association comprises over 100 police chiefs and senior law enforcement executives across the State of Alaska and we strongly support House Bill 4002: *"An Act relating to major medical insurance coverage under the Public Employees' Retirement System of Alaska for certain surviving spouses and dependent children of peace officers and firefighters; and providing for an effective date"*.

Our members believe that this important legislation helps provide critically needed health care to the surviving family members of our public safety heroes who have given their lives in selfless service to our communities and state. It is imperative that we provide these families with secure, stable, health care coverage after suffering such tremendous loss.

We would be pleased to work with your staff to insure that HB 4002 is passed, and encourage you or other members of the committee to contact either myself at [bejohnson@ci.fairbanks.ak.us](mailto:bejohnson@ci.fairbanks.ak.us) or our Vice-President Michael Holman, by email at [mholman@ci.unalaska.ak.us](mailto:mholman@ci.unalaska.ak.us) should there be some way we can be of assistance in that regard. Thank you for your dedication to the people of Alaska and your support of the law enforcement community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "BE Johnson".

Brad Johnson  
President