

**AMENDMENT TO H.R. 1280**  
**OFFERED BY MR. ZELDIN OF NEW YORK**

Add at the end of the bill the following:

**1 SEC. 503. FINDINGS; SENSE OF CONGRESS.**

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

3 (1) Calls to “defund”, “disband”, “dismantle”,  
4 or “abolish” the police should be condemned and  
5 rule of law should be strictly maintained.

6 (2) Law enforcement officers take an oath to  
7 never betray the public trust.

8 (3) In the course of investigations into officers  
9 who have allegedly exhibited misconduct, law en-  
10 forcement should have certain rights to ensure a fair  
11 administration of justice, including—

12 (A) a law enforcement officer’s inherent  
13 right to self-defense against physical threats;

14 (B) a law enforcement officer’s right to  
15 legal recourse if a civilian attempts to assault  
16 the law enforcement officer;

17 (C) a law enforcement officer’s right to be  
18 protected from physical harassment targeting a  
19 law enforcement officer;

1 (D) a law enforcement officer's right to  
2 equipment necessary for personal protection;

3 (E) a law enforcement officer's right to  
4 counsel and a union representative present at  
5 any interview conducted as part of an investiga-  
6 tion;

7 (F) a law enforcement officer's right to be  
8 informed of the nature of the investigation be-  
9 fore any interview commences, including the  
10 name of the complainant and sufficient infor-  
11 mation to reasonably apprise the officer of the  
12 allegations;

13 (G) during questioning in the course of an  
14 investigation a law enforcement officer's right—

15 (i) to not be subjected to any offensive  
16 language;

17 (ii) to not be threatened with depart-  
18 mental, civil, or criminal charges; and

19 (iii) to not receive financial or pro-  
20 motional inducement;

21 (H) a law enforcement officer's right to a  
22 hearing, with notification in advance of the  
23 date, access to transcripts, other relevant docu-  
24 ments, and evidence;

1 (I) a law enforcement officer's right to  
2 have the opportunity to respond to adverse ac-  
3 cusations; and

4 (J) a law enforcement officer's right to not  
5 be disciplined for exercising a Fifth Amendment  
6 right to remain silent unless granted immunity  
7 that such statements will not be used against  
8 the officer in any criminal proceeding.

9 (4) In order to ensure these investigations are  
10 conducted in a manner that protects the public, re-  
11 spects the rights of law enforcement personnel, and  
12 is conducive to good order and discipline, States  
13 across the country are encouraged to adopt a "Bill  
14 of Rights" for law enforcement personnel for protec-  
15 tions related to investigation and prosecution arising  
16 from conduct during official performance of duties.

17 (5) The law enforcement community protects  
18 our streets, acknowledges the rights of all Ameri-  
19 cans, and keeps citizens safe from harm.

20 (6) Law enforcement officers are recognized for  
21 their public service to all, knowing they face ex-  
22 tremely dangerous situations while carrying out their  
23 duties.

24 (7) A healthy and collaborative relationship be-  
25 tween law enforcement officers and the communities

1       they serve is essential to creating mutually respectful  
2       dialogue.

3       (b) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Con-  
4       gress that—

5             (1) all law enforcement agencies and officers  
6       should be recognized for their tireless work to pro-  
7       tect us and make our communities safer;

8             (2) calls to “defund”, “disband”, “dismantle”,  
9       or “abolish” the police should be condemned;

10            (3) dialogue between law enforcement and their  
11       respective communities to improve public safety, and  
12       engage all of society’s stakeholders, should be en-  
13       couraged; and

14            (4) the rights of police officers to carry out  
15       their duties to protect our communities with integ-  
16       rity and have essential protections during the course  
17       of investigations should be protected.

