

FEDERAL LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS ASSOCIATION

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February 3, 2016

The Honorable Orin Hatch
United States Senate
Committee on the Judiciary
104 Hart Senate Office Building

Dear Senator Hatch:

On behalf of the Federal Law Enforcement Officers Association (www.fleoa.org), the nation's largest non-partisan association representing federal law enforcement officers, we wanted to express our support for the Rapid DNA Act of 2015.

As federal law enforcement officers, especially in an age where borders are closer and travel easier, the collection of DNA to help identify suspects has become part of the law enforcement tool box. In both Iraq and Afghanistan it is well documented that federal law enforcement agencies were on the ground as part of a task force to not only identify terrorists but also terrorist bombers and bomb manufacturers. This relied primarily on the collection and rapid identification of biometric data, including DNA.

As terrorism and trans-national crimes have become more prevalent, our ability to track, store and identify suspects is critical for the effective and rapid identification and apprehension of dangerous suspects. Your bill, the Rapid DNA Act of 2015 would place the important tool of DNA identification at the hands of law enforcement making it easier to protect the American public.

This bill is one of those 21st Century tools that is long overdue in implementation. We appreciate your leadership with this issue and look forward to working with your office on its swift passage into law.

Respectfully,

Nathan Catura

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FLEOA President

CC: Chairman Charles Grassley
Ranking Member Patrick Leahy