



## New York State Law Enforcement Officers Union, Council 82

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF STATE, COUNTY AND MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES, AFL-CIO

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September 3, 2020

The Honorable Elise Stefanik  
P.O. Box 500  
Glens Falls, NY 12801

Dear Congresswoman Stefanik,

The New York State Law Enforcement Officers Union, Council 82, AFSCME, AFL-CIO (Council 82), is honored to endorse and stand with you in your campaign for re-election to Congress. As you know, Council 82 represents over 3,500 Police Officers, Deputy Sheriffs, County Correction Officers, State Correction Lieutenants, Emergency Dispatchers, and other Public Safety personnel across New York State, including about 800 members who live and work in the 21<sup>st</sup> Congressional District. These members include the men and women of the Plattsburgh Police Officers Union, the Jefferson County Deputy Sheriffs Union, the Jefferson County Correction Officers Union, the Fulton County Sheriffs Corrections, Communications, and Civil Union, the St. Lawrence County Correction Officers Union, the St. Lawrence County Correction Supervisors Union, and the New York State Correction Lieutenants Union. Our endorsement of you recognizes the great job you have done for the 21<sup>st</sup> District, this Nation, your strong and unwavering support for law enforcement, for veterans and military families, and for necessary funding to state and local governments seeking coronavirus aid and relief.

As you know, the men and women of Council 82 are some of the finest law enforcement, corrections, and public safety officers in our nation – caring, compassionate, and professional people who serve and protect all of us and our communities. We respond call to call, day in and day out, in the face of pandemic health risks, with demands to “defund” law enforcement, and rising violence against us. We are especially grateful for your support and advocacy for law enforcement, in New York State and throughout this Nation, in the face of false, reckless, and escalating anti-police rhetoric. Your opponent, Tedra Cobb, consistently demonizes law enforcement officers for doing their jobs – citing alleged systemic racism and systemic police brutality. Ms. Cobb politicizes officer safety with the phony partisan “demilitarization of the police” issue. Every sensible person understands that surplus military equipment is crucial equipment needed to protect both officers and law-abiding citizens and their property and businesses – equipment which police and sheriff’s departments would not otherwise be able to afford. This equipment is used 100% responsibly by our officers in high risk interventions, in mass shooting incidents, in riot control, and in disaster relief in order to maintain law and order in the face of rioters, looters, and anarchists, and Ms. Cobb knows it. Ms. Cobb also supported the completely partisan, dangerous, and ill-advised “Justice in Policing Act” – an act which every sensible person knows would make it nearly impossible for law enforcement to properly protect our communities, to return to our families each day, or to provide for their future. Not a single one of our members is opposed to legitimate reform such as the “Justice Act”, a bill which you co-sponsored and which she rejected, but we all stand against alleged reforms that would purposefully put law enforcement officers in harm’s way.

This election is so important for law enforcement and for our families. Council 82 proudly supports your re-election to Congress, and we pledge to do so every step of the way and we will welcome the opportunity to work with you after your victory in November.

Sincerely,

Ronald Walsh  
President, Council 82