

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-4606

September 1, 2009

Mr. Keith D. Cheatham
Vice President
Virginia Chamber of Commerce
9 S 5th St
Richmond, VA 23219-3890

Dear Mr. Cheatham,

Thank you for contacting me regarding the Public Safety Employer-Employee Cooperation Act (PSEEC) (H.R. 413). As always, I greatly appreciate your counsel on this and other important issues affecting Virginia. As a former Governor and now a United States Senator, I recognize that local officials often have the best sense of the needs of their communities and this input is vital to the success of our Commonwealth.

The PSEEC would grant collective bargaining rights to public safety employees, such as firefighters, police officers and emergency medical personnel, in districts that currently do not grant such rights. During the 110th Congress, the PSEEC passed in the House of Representatives by a vote of 314-97, but was never considered in the Senate. I understand that the PSEEC will be introduced in the Senate in the near future. Please be assured I will keep your thoughts in mind should this, or similar proposals, come before me in the Senate.

Again, thanks for writing. I look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,



MARK R. WARNER
United States Senator

MRW/ah