

Dear Representative -

I am a Transportation Security Office (TSO), I work for Transportation Security Administration an agency of the Department of Homeland Security, and a Veteran of the United States Navy.

Our Transportation Security Administration officers (TSOs) work day in and day out to ensure that our travelers make it to their destination safely. They put their lives on the line to protect us. And they do this all without full union rights or protections.

I firmly believe that airport screening must be performed by federal government employees, and those workers must be provided adequate resources to do their jobs. That's why I urge you to support and co-sponsor **H.R. 2309** introduced by Representative Bennie Thompson, currently in the Homeland Security, and the Oversight and Government Reform committees.

If passed, this bill would provide TSA Officers the same rights and protections under Title 5 as the rest of the federal workforce, including fair pay under the standard General Schedule pay system, worker protections under the Family and Medical Leave Act and the Fair Labor Standards Act, the right to appeal adverse personnel decisions to an objective third-party; and full collective bargaining rights.

These rights would also give a peace of mind to TSOs and improve morale, knowing that they have the same protections as their colleagues in the federal government.

These men and women put their lives on the line to make sure our skies stay safe. It's time that they are given the same union protections as their brothers and sisters in the civil service. Please support and co-sponsor the Rights for Transportation Security Officers Act of 2017.

Sincerely,