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**Testimony of Mark Mullins**  
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**Oregon Fire and Rescue Department**  
**Proponent of HB 236**  
**House Economic Development, Commerce and Labor Committee**  
**June 26, 2018**

Chairman Young, Vice Chair Riedel and ranking member Lepore-Hagan, thank you for the opportunity to testify today in support of House Bill 236.

As a member of the public safety community I am expected to put my life on the line for other people and every single firefighter in our department is expected to do the same. We are responsible for our employees' lives and the lives of the general public every day. It is our job to make sure that our employees and the public that may be trapped in a burning building get home to their families and children, and we take that responsibility very seriously

In Oregon, Ohio, like every community, we work every day to reduce our risk as firefighters. We are constantly educating our firefighters and the public. Our firefighters take continuing education classes either at Cleveland State or through the State Fire Marshall's Office. We also educate the public by teaching fire prevention in elementary schools and working with employers with fire drills. Teaching the public the importance of working fire alarms and how to safely exit a burning building has saved countless lives in Ohio and across the country over the decades.

We also conduct regular and routine inspections of public buildings in our community. Our inspections include looking at everything from the ceiling tiles to the flooring in a building and everything in between, including elevators, fire suppression systems and fire alarms. Elevators, fire suppression and fire alarms are particularly important to us because they are life safety systems. If those fail or malfunction, then someone in the building—or even one of our firefighters—could die.

By passing House Bill 236 and requiring that elevators are regulated in the same way as the other life safety systems in the building, you will be helping us to ensure that Ohio has a consistent regulation, requiring trained and licensed people to install and maintain elevators in Ohio.

Fire Departments across Ohio do everything we can to avoid fires and to avoid unforeseen problems if a fire does occur and we need to run in and save lives. Passing House Bill 236 would take another variable off the table for fire and rescue professionals. For that reason, I urge you to support HB 236.

Thank you for your time today, I am available to answer questions.