

**Testimony Before the  
Senate Insurance and Financial Institutions Committee  
On Amended House Bill 362  
Staff Lieutenant Matt Them**

January 23, 2018

Chairman Hottinger, Vice Chair Hackett, Ranking Member Brown, and members of the Senate Insurance and Financial Institutions Committee, thank you for this opportunity to speak. My name is Matt Them and I am currently a staff lieutenant in the highway patrol. I am also one of the active member representatives of the Ohio Highway Patrol Retirement System (HPRS) board of trustees.

I was unable to be present today, but I am writing to express my full support of Amended House Bill 362. The changes in this bill which include restoring the minimum age of retirement to 52 for new hires, calculation of off-duty disability benefits, and changes in survivor benefits are needed to provide additional solvency to our system. As you may know, HPRS was forced to change several of its actuarial assumptions in 2016 which significantly increased our unfunded liabilities. This legislation will help offset the negative impact of these assumption changes. According to HPRS's actuary, these changes reduce the amortization period of our unfunded actuarial accrued liabilities by several years.

I realize no one wants to see any change in benefits, myself included, but this legislation is in the best interest of the retirement system and its long-term solvency. Thus, in the long-run, a solvent and well-funded system will benefit all of us individually. I ask for your support in passing this much-needed legislation.

Thank you for the opportunity to present this testimony. I will be glad to answer any questions you may have.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Matt L. Them". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal line extending from the end of the name.

Matt Them