

Dear Chairman Eklund and members of the Senate Judiciary Committee:

The Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW), Department of Ohio respectfully urges you to support Senate Bill 145, which would create the offenses of "theft for conversion of a telephone number or exchange", and "providing misleading caller identification information" in a similar effort to provide relief to Ohioans who are receiving similar calls and to protect those whose phone numbers have been used fraudulently. The offense generally is a fifth-degree felony, but if the victim is an elderly person, disabled adult, active duty service member, or spouse of an active duty service member, the offense is a fourth-degree felony.

The members of the VFW of Ohio support this legislation because it will fight fraudulent activity against active duty families and the elderly. The bill was introduced in May of last year and referred to the Senate Judiciary Committee, where it still sits.

Please support this important legislation.

Respectfully,

Debra Berg-Simon

Service Officer

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