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**House Commerce and Labor Committee  
Ohio Fire Chiefs' Association  
House Bill 107 Proponent Testimony**

Chair Stein, Vice Chair Johnson, Ranking Member Lepore-Hagan, and members of the House Commerce and Labor Committee, thank you for the opportunity to submit proponent testimony on House Bill 107.

House Bill 107 establishes some much-needed guidelines and criteria for elevator maintenance within the state of Ohio. Specifically, requirements that an elevator mechanic be licensed, complete a nationally recognized training program including an apprenticeship, and maintain his or her skill level through continuing education. These are just some of the guardrails to elevator maintenance which will benefit both the mechanic themselves, and public safety as a whole.

Fire departments across the state respond to elevator rescues where firefighters must extricate victims through various methods, such as lowering the car to another floor, or removing them through top escape hatches. Often victims are left in the car for long periods of time, until maintenance personnel can respond. Not only is the safety of elevator passengers a priority, but the safety of the firefighters in this situation is also paramount. Without proper maintenance protocols, firefighters are put in significant danger as they attempt to remove stranded elevator passengers.

House Bill 107 may not eliminate every call a department receives for elevator rescues; however, it will ensure the elevators in our communities throughout the state are being maintained by licensed professionals with extensive training and education.

Respectfully,

Steve Agenbroad  
OFCA Legislative Committee, Chair