



**BUCKEYE STATE SHERIFFS' ASSOCIATION** 

1103 Schrock Road, Suite 401 • Columbus, Ohio 43229 • Tel: (614) 431-5500 • Fax: (614) 431-5665

ROBERT A. CORNWELL EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

February 1, 2022

OFFICERS President Phil R. Stammitti Lorain County First Vice President Jamie Patton Union County Second Vice President George T. Maier Stark County Third Vice President Jason K. Landers **Paulding County** Treasurer Thomas M. Riggenbach Van Wert County **Executive Secretary** 

Director At Large
Keith A. Everhart
Hardin County

DISTRICT DIRECTORS
Northeast District
David Shaffer

John L. Hinton Morrow County

**Knox County** Travis Hutchinson Wayne County Northwest District Scott Kent Crawford County Michael D. Bodenbender Henry County **Southeast District** Ronald J. Myers Harrison County Matthew J. Lutz Muskingum County **Southwest District** Steve Leahy Clermont County Larry Sims

Warren County

DISTRICT DEPUTY DIRECTORS
Northeast District
Chief Deputy Richard Haun
Holmes County
Northwest District
Lt. Ryan Kidwell
Hancock County
Southeast District
Chief Deputy Chad Dennis
Licking County
Southwest District

Deputy Richard Crabtree Union County Honorable Jeff LaRe, Chairman House Criminal Justice Committee Riffe Center 77 South High Street, 13<sup>th</sup> floor Columbus, Ohio 43215

Dear Mr. Chairman and Members of the Committee,

The Buckeye State Sheriffs' Association has had an opportunity to review the introduced version and the passed version of SB 16 introduced by Senator Tim Schaffer. We, as an Association, support Sub. SB 16.

Current protections for Ohio's First Responders do not go far enough to protect these individuals in the performance of their duties. By enhancing the penalties and providing clear definition for assault, menacing and unlawfully impeding public passage of emergency response services will send a message to those that seek to cause harm or delay response to an intense situation.

If there are any questions I would be happy to try and answer them..

Comment

Respectfully,

Robert A. Cornwell Executive Director

PAST PRESIDENTS CURRENT SHERIFFS

2021 Keith A. Everhart Hardin County 2019 Matthew J. Lutz Muskingum County 2018 Michael L. Simpson Preble County 2017 Mark Wasylyshyn Wood County