

82ND HOUSE DISTRICT

DEFIANCE, PAULDING, AND VAN WERT
COUNTIES, AND THE NORTHWEST CORNER
OF AUGLAIZE COUNTY

Committees

Economic and Workforce
Development; Energy and
Natural Resources; Vice
Chairman of Ways and Means



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State Representatives Craig S. Riedel and Philip Plummer Ohio House of Representatives

Chairman Oelslager, Vice Chair Plummer and Members of the House Finance Committee, thank you for allowing me to give sponsor testimony on House Bill 337. This legislation provides a one-time bonus award to eligible first responders and law enforcement.

Eligible individuals include police officers, firefighters, State Highway Patrol officers, county deputy sheriffs, Bureau of Criminal Identification agents, jail officers, volunteer firefighters, and emergency medical technicians.

Under this bill, those eligible for the bonus award must have been continuously employed from March 1, 2020 and not subject to any form of disciplinary action. Full-time first responders would receive \$1,000, and part-time and volunteer first responders would receive \$500. Each employer is required to certify who is eligible to the Attorney General within 30 days of the bill's effective date.

This bill provides an excellent use of federal funds to support our first responders and law enforcement in Ohio. These dedicated Ohioans put their lives at risk to keep our state safe, especially over the past three years. This is a way for the State of Ohio to say to law enforcement officers and first responders, "we have your back because we know you have ours."

Thank you for allowing me to address you today with my support for House Bill 337. I would be happy to answer any questions at this time.

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