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**House Transportation and Public Safety Committee  
Ohio Fire Chiefs' Association  
House Bill 206 Proponent Testimony**

Chair Baldrige, Vice Chair McClain, Ranking Member Sheehy, and members of the House Transportation and Public Safety Committee, thank you for the opportunity to submit proponent testimony on House Bill 206.

House Bill 206 grants a township officer, who serves a township with a population between 5,000 and 50,000, the authority to make an arrest for specified traffic offenses on an interstate highway within the township's jurisdiction if certain criteria are met and the township adopts a resolution authorizing such arrests. More specifically, this legislation permits township officers to enforce laws such as failing to yield to an emergency vehicle and failing to proceed appropriately upon encountering a stationary public safety vehicle displaying emergency lights.

When responding to an emergency, we need to move quickly and address the emergency as soon as we arrive to the scene. Having the assistance of our township officers to coordinate a safe scene from oncoming traffic is crucial not only for keeping us safe but also for addressing the emergency as promptly and appropriately as possible.

House Bill 206 will reduce the number of instances in which fire fighters and EMS are left in dangerous situations along our interstates. We would like to thank Representatives Ghanbari and O'Brien for their work on this bill and to the committee for its expediency.

Respectfully,

Steve Agenbroad  
OFCA Legislative Committee, Chair