



**FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE OF OHIO, INC.**

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**Testimony on Senate Bill 4**

**Senate Judiciary**

February 2, 2021

Chairman Manning, Vice-Chair McColley, Ranking Member Thomas, and  
Members of the Committee,

My name is Mike Weinman; I am a retired Columbus police officer who now  
serves as the director of government affairs for the FOP. I am here today to give  
proponent testimony on Senate Bill 4 on behalf of our 26,000 members.

The Fraternal Order of Police of Ohio urges the committee's support of Senate  
Bill 4, which protects the residential and familial information of emergency  
services telecommunicators from being released under the public records law. It  
is unfortunate that a law is needed to protect our call takers and dispatchers.  
However, many times they are the first voice the public hears when law  
enforcement agencies are called. As such, they are often subject to threatening,  
abusive comments from disgruntled citizens when a caller feels that the agency  
did not act the way the caller thought they should. It only takes one of these  
unhappy citizens to escalate from words to action. A simple anonymous request  
can currently give this person access to the call taker's name, address, and  
schedule. SB 4 will provide these telecommunicators with the protection they  
need to keep this information private, adding a much-needed level of security.

Again, the FOP of Ohio supports SB 4. Now, more than ever, the current  
environment has led to protests and harassment at one's home. This activity is  
becoming an all too often occurrence. Therefore, the FOP respectfully requests  
the favorable reporting of SB 4.

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