



To: Criminal Justice Committee
Ohio House of Representatives

From: Fire Chief Richard Haacke

Date: March 23, 2023

Re: Statement of testimony for Criminal Justice Committee

Reckless driving is not just bad behavior; it is destructive and deadly. As a first responder, the effects of reckless driving can last forever and be ingrained in our memories. In the early stages of an incident, first responders are responsible for the protection and preservation of life, property, and the environment, including emergency response providers, but the effects of reckless driving are not over after the accident is cleaned up. Reckless actions subject responders to a great deal of traumatic events, resulting in a higher risk of developing [post-traumatic stress disorder](#) (PTSD). This bill could help reduce senseless injury and/or loss of life to both the general public as well as first responders.