

(Ret) OSHP Sgt. Benjamin Seabolt

Owner- Seabolt Investigations LLC

Written Testimony before Ohio House Criminal Justice Committee

House Bill 91

October 17, 2023

Good morning, Chairman Abrams, Vice Chair Williams, Ranking Member Brown and members of the Ohio House Criminal Justice Committee. My name is Benjamin Seabolt and I am a retired Sergeant from the Ohio State Highway Patrol and the agency owner of Seabolt Investigations LLC, which is an Ohio DPS, Class “A” licensed provider of private investigations and security services since 2018.

I am here to testify as a “Proponent” to House Bill 91. I would like to take a moment to thank Representative Patton for his leadership and willingness to listen and understand the needs of the private investigation and private security sector, as it applies to this Bill.

The full exemption for GPS tracking use by Class A, B, and C registrants of ORC 4749, provided by this bill will continue to allow private investigators and security personnel such as myself to work in a supporting role to our states law enforcement agencies who are at unprecedented low levels of personnel.

I have worked with numerous clients involving child custody cases where the children’s well-being has been seriously jeopardized and have successfully obtained evidence to present to a court in order to have multiple children removed from drug abusing and trafficking individuals as well as many court ordered instructions. The truth of many of these situations would have never been revealed without the assistance of GPS tracking capabilities.

I have worked with numerous employers dealing with worker’s compensation abuse and fraud and remote employee accountability issues. I have successfully revealed the truth of multiple false claims and inconsistencies, many of which, again, would not have been possible without the assistance of GPS tracking capabilities.

These types of cases, as well as stalking victim’s assistance and clients involved with court ordered alimony based on cohabitation agreements, is why I support this bill as it is written.

This concludes my testimony and I would be willing to try and answer any questions you may have.

Respectively submitted,

(Ret) OSHP Sergeant Benjamin Seabolt

Owner- Seabolt Investigations LLC