

COUNTY COMMISSIONER BONNIE J. BATCHLER

October 3, 2023

To:

Ohio House Finance Committee, via Chairman: Hon. Jay Edwards

From:

Clermont County Commissioner, Bonnie Batchler

Re:

HB 244 – Appropriate Funds for a Fire Department

Dear Finance Committee Members:

I am writing to express my support for HB 244, to appropriate funds for a Fire Department.

Goshen Township was the hardest hit when a tornado targeted Clermont County on July 6th, 2022. Goshen Township's main fire station partially collapsed and was nearly completely destroyed in this disaster. The building has been uninhabitable for any use ever since.

I understand that Rep. Jean Schmidt and Sen. Terry Johnson attempted to secure funding in the state operating budget, but these funds were not included in the final version.

As a former life squad chief in my township for many years, I whole-heartedly support the State Legislature considering and passing HB 244 to lend aid via financial support to Goshen Township to assist in making them whole again.

Very Truly Yours,

Bonnie Batchler, Commissioner