

Seabolt Investigations LLC

(740)541-0647

Seaboltinvestigations.com

Seaboltinvestigations@hotmail.com

ODPS PISGS License # 20172100243799

(Ret) OSHP Sgt. Benjamin Seabolt

Owner- Seabolt Investigations LLC

Oral Testimony before Ohio Senate Financial Institutions and Technology Committee

Senate Bill 100

June 6, 2023

Good morning, Chairman Wilson, Vice Chair Hackett, Ranking Member Smith and members of the Ohio Senate Financial Institutions and Technology 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 an "Interested Party" on Senate Bill 100. I would like to take a moment to thank Senator Antonio and Senator Manning for their leadership in cosponsoring this Bill and their willingness to listen and understand the needs of the private investigation and private security sector, as it applies to this Bill.

In the draft amendment that I was provided, it allows an exemption for GPS tracking use by Class A, B, and C registrants of ORC 4749, while conducting criminal investigations. I completely agree with that exemption, however, I believe that it currently restricts our capabilities as it applies to clients in both Civil and Administrative cases.

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 would support adding similar language to this Bill that reflects the full exemption language found in the amendment to Ohio House Bill 91 for Class A, B and C registrants of ORC 4749.

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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