

OHIO SENATE GOVERNMENT OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE May 31, 2023

Written Proponent Testimony Senate Bill 91

Chair Roegner, Vice Chair Antani, Ranking Member Hicks-Hudson, and members of the Ohio Senate Government Oversight Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide written proponent testimony regarding our support for Senate Bill 91, which targets waste, fraud, and abuse in the public sector.

The Ohio Municipal League represents more than 730 cities and villages, and these municipalities pride themselves on being good stewards of taxpayer money. Furthermore, they carefully consider their financial practices to best carry out important services and programs on behalf of their residents.

It is a tragedy when a public official or employee entrusted by their constituents or residents betrays that trust by committing such fraud or misappropriation of public funds. Senate Bill 91 would help to ensure that these situations become even more of a rarity while also increasing the likelihood that such misuses of public resources are discovered and quickly addressed.

The officials at OML's member communities appreciate training materials from the state that help them carry out their jobs effectively, and the training materials that would be created by the Auditor of State under this bill are example of that. Furthermore, the required reporting in this bill by those in certain public positions is a necessary aspect that can prevent a bad actor from doing additional harm.

We appreciate Senator Schaffer for sponsoring this legislation and seeking to protect the financial resources that make our communities successful.

Thank you for the opportunity to share our support for Senate Bill 91 on behalf of Ohio municipalities.

Kent Scarrett
Executive Director

Ohio Municipal League