

June 21, 2023

Good morning/afternoon chairman Manning and vice chair Reynolds and fellow members of the Senate Judiciary committee.

The people have spoken and last November, 77% of voters passed Issue 1. Ohioans want bail and want the Judges/Magistrates to consider public safety when setting bail. For the most part, this letter in support of house bill 191. However, The Ohio Professional Bail Bond Association wants to bring a few small details that we believe should be edified to bring clarity and precision throughout the ages.

- Page 24 (678-679) *The surety shall provide other evidence of financial responsibility as the court or clerk may (**Shall**) require. The court shall not approve a bail bond unless the surety or sureties appear, in the opinion of the court or clerk, to be financially responsible in at least the amount of the bond.*

It's only fair that all bad actors be weeded out and we believe the clerk and the courts **Shall** require all to provide proof sufficient surety, as it's the fiscally responsible thing to do.

- Page 22 (611, 614, 620). Page 24 (655, 660) the term judicial officer is mentioned 5 times it seems to be deliberate and could be open into interpretation. There are many jurisdictions across the globe judicial officers can be attorney's and even sworn law enforcement.

We (OPBA) believe it is of the utmost importance to use precise words like (**Judge or magistrate**) replace the judicial officer term. This will avoid any potential misinterpretation of the term, especially given the many jurisdictions in Ohio alone (over 120 municipal courts). Thank you for your time and consideration of these suggestions.

Thank you for the opportunity to speak before you today.