

Chair Abrams, Vice Chair Miller, Ranking Member Thomas, and everyone here today,

Thank you for accepting my testimony. My name is Vicki Prunty. I'm the founder of and lead organizer of EAGER (European Americans Growing, Engaging, and Reconditioning) and a board member with OFUPAC (Ohio Families Unite for Political Action and Change). I'm here to stand up for House Bill 131, because arrest quotas? They're bad for cops, bad for communities, and bad for justice.

Many officers would say they genuinely want to help people. But when you tie their job performance to how many tickets they write or arrests they make, you're setting everyone up to fail.

Quotas turn policing into a sales job, where the goal isn't safety, it's hitting a number. Guess who pays the price?

Communities, especially Black and brown neighborhoods already skeptical of law enforcement, get over-policed for petty stuff just to fill a quota.

Officers end up stuck between doing what's right and keeping their bosses happy. That's a garbage position to put good people in.

Trust? Forget it. I don't even think I really need to tell you how that erodes trust.

HB 131 is pro-common sense. Here's what it does:

Ends the quota system, so cops can focus on real threats, not nickel-and-dime arrests.

Encourages better ways to measure success. Like how well officers de-escalate situations or build relationships in their beats.

Restores a little faith that law enforcement is about protecting people, not padding stats.

I don't have all the answers, but I know this: nobody wins with quotas. Not the single mom getting ticketed for a busted taillight she can't afford to fix. Not the cop who joined the force to make a difference but spends their shift hassling folks over minor violations.

Let's pass HB 131 and start moving toward policing that actually serves the community.