

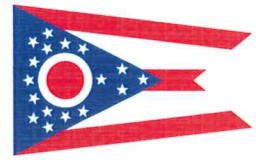


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House Public Safety Committee

May 20, 2025

Testimony on Senate Bill 114

Chair Abrams, Vice-Chair Miller, Ranking Member Thomas, and committee members – I am Brian Steel, president of Fraternal Order of Police Capital City Lodge 9. Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in staunch support of SB 114, introduced by Senator Tom Patton. This bipartisan legislation takes a vital step forward by prohibiting the use of tickets and arrest quotas in law enforcement agencies across Ohio.

On behalf of the Fraternal Order of Police of Ohio, representing over 25,000 law enforcement officers, I speak on behalf of the men and women who serve our communities with integrity and professionalism. I am proud to join nearly all major law enforcement organizations in Ohio, including the Ohio Patrolmen's Benevolent Association, the Ohio State Troopers Association, the Ohio Association of Chiefs of Police, and many others, in full support of this bill.

SB 114 aligns with the core mission of law enforcement: to protect the public and build lasting trust with the communities we serve. The imposition of quotas—requiring officers to meet arbitrary targets for arrests or citations—undermines this mission, shifting focus away from meaningful public safety work and placing undue pressure on officers to prioritize numbers over sound judgment and community engagement.

Support for SB 114 among Ohio's law enforcement community is both broad and deep. Organizations such as the Fraternal Order of Police of Ohio and the Ohio State Troopers Association recognize that quotas diminish the professionalism of our officers and misrepresent the true intent of policing. Law enforcement professionals are not revenue generators—we are public servants charged with upholding safety, fairness, and justice.

The bill also includes important accountability provisions, establishing a mechanism for officers to report the existence or use of quotas confidentially. These reports will be investigated by the Ohio Attorney General, ensuring transparency and providing a meaningful check against unlawful practices.

In conclusion, I respectfully urge the committee to support SB 114. It is a commonsense reform that strengthens officer discretion, upholds community trust, and preserves the integrity of Ohio's law enforcement institution. While I testified on SB 114, the FOP also strongly supports HB 131. We thank Senator Tom Patton and Representatives Kevin Miller and Bride Rose Sweeney, along with their staffs, for their work on SB 114 and HB 131. Thank you for your time, consideration, and continued support for those who wear the badge.