



**Al Cutrona**

State Senator  
33<sup>rd</sup> District

Committees

Small Business & Economic Opportunity – Chair  
Addiction & Community Revitalization  
Education  
Housing  
Judiciary

**Ohio Senate**

Senate Building  
1 Capitol Square  
Columbus, Ohio 43215  
(614) 466-8285

**February 10, 2025**

**Senate Education Committee  
Senate Bill 318 Sponsor Testimony**

Chair Brenner, Vice Chair Blessing, Ranking Member Ingram, and members of the Senate Education Committee, thank you for the opportunity to provide sponsor testimony on Senate Bill 318.

Senate Bill 318 permits a chartered nonpublic school to generally engage for school resource officer (SRO) services in the same manner as a school district does under continuing law, additionally, it expressly permits a township police department to provide SRO services to a chartered nonpublic school in the department's jurisdiction.

The need for this legislation stems from a September 2025 opinion, issued by Ohio Attorney General Dave Yost, in relation to Ohio Revised Code Section 3313.951. In the Opinion, AG Yost concluded that the General Assembly has not authorized townships to enter-into memoranda of understanding (MOU) with chartered, non-public schools for the services of an SRO.

This legislation is fundamental in ensuring that our children are kept safe. SROs are integral to a safe learning environment and often act as mentors to the youth. They bridge the gap between police and youth by patrolling, preventing violence, responding to emergencies, and building positive relationships with students.

Thank you again for the opportunity to provide sponsor testimony on SB 318, and I would be happy to answer any questions at this time.