

Chair Manning, Vice Chair Reynolds, Ranking Member Hicks-Hudson, and members of the Senate Judiciary Committee,

Thank you for allowing me to testify today. My name is Vicki Prunty. As a resident of Ohio who cares deeply about the safety, fairness, and trust within our communities, I stand in strong support of Senate Bill 114 to ban ticket and arrest quotas for law enforcement. This issue is deeply personal to me because I've seen firsthand how quotas undermine the relationship between police and the people they serve—a relationship that should be rooted in partnership, not suspicion.

For years, I've heard stories from friends, family, and neighbors about being pulled over for minor infractions that felt more like a "gotcha" moment than a legitimate public safety concern. It's hard not to wonder: **Was that stop about safety, or was it about meeting a number?** When officers are pressured to prioritize quotas, it sends a message that their job is to **enforce** rather than **protect**. It shifts their focus from educating drivers, de-escalating conflicts, and building trust to simply filling a quota to satisfy a bureaucratic metric.

This isn't just hypothetical. If law enforcement is reduced to a numbers game, how can we ever expect citizens—especially young people—to see officers as allies? Quotas force police into the role of tax collectors, not guardians. It's a disservice to officers who joined the force to make a difference, and it's a betrayal to taxpayers who fund public safety programs meant to protect us, not profit from us.

Worse, quotas open the door to biased policing. When officers are pressured to stop a certain number of people, they're more likely to target low-income neighborhoods, communities of color, or easy-to-punish violations like expired tags—issues that often stem from systemic inequities, not criminal intent. This breeds resentment, fear, and division. It tells entire communities, "You're a statistic, not a neighbor."

Senate Bill 114 is a critical step toward rebuilding trust. By banning quotas, we empower officers to use their **discretion** and **training** to focus on **legitimate threats to safety**, not arbitrary benchmarks. It allows them to prioritize education over punishment, de-escalation over confrontation, and relationships over revenue. Let's stop forcing police into adversarial roles and start giving them the freedom to serve in ways that truly make us safer.

To the lawmakers considering this bill: I urge you to pass Senate Bill 114. Let's move Ohio toward a future where police and citizens work **together**—not against each other—to create communities where everyone feels safe, respected, and heard.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

I am happy to answer any questions you may have.