



## FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE OF OHIO, INC.

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## Senate Judiciary Committee

March 26, 2025

## Testimony on Senate Bill 114

Chair Manning, Vice-Chair Reynolds, Ranking Member Hicks-Hudson, and members of the committee,

I am Travis Parker. I work as a Sergeant for the Columbus Division of Police, where I have served for 31 years. I am also the Secretary of the Ohio Fraternal Order of Police. Thank you for allowing me to testify on behalf of the 23,000 FOP members from around Ohio, providing proponent testimony on SB 114, introduced by Senator Tom Patton.

This legislation aims to end the long-outdated practice of imposing ticket and arrest quotas on law enforcement officers in Ohio. The FOP strongly believes that the focus for traffic enforcement and arrest decisions should not be on generating revenue. That practice diminishes the public's trust in law enforcement agencies. The primary purpose behind every decision a law enforcement officer makes is to positively impact public safety.

Law Enforcement Officers across Ohio have worked hard to build trust in their local communities. Professional Law Enforcement Officers should always have discretion in these situations. Officers can make an arrest, issue a citation, write a ticket, or give a verbal or written warning. When applied correctly, all those choices help to modify drivers' behavior and ensure public safety in Ohio. Quotas, which mandate a certain number of arrests or citations within a specific timeframe, shift an officer's focus from legitimate public safety concerns to arbitrary numerical targets.

Requiring officers to meet quotas places undue pressure on them and hinders their ability to perform their job effectively. We recognize that quotas jeopardize the essential public trust between law enforcement and Ohio's citizens. This bill will emphasize that a police officer's primary purpose is to protect our communities.

SB 114 also includes accountability provisions, creating a system for officers to report the use of quotas anonymously, which will prompt an investigation by the attorney general. This measure ensures that agencies are accountable while protecting officers from retaliation.

Chair Nathan Manning

March 26, 2025

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The FOP believes that this bill will have a positive impact on our law enforcement officers and their communities. For these reasons, the FOP of Ohio respectfully requests that the committee report SB 114 favorably.

Thank you for considering my testimony.