



BUCKEYE STATE SHERIFFS' ASSOCIATION

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ROBERT A. CORNWELL
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

April 28, 2025

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Senator Nathan Manning, Chairman
Senate Judiciary Committee
1 Capitol Square
Columbus, Ohio 43215

Dear Mr. Chairman,

I have had an opportunity to review SB 135. As an Association, we **OPPOSE SB 135** as introduced. The Sheriff has always been active in the foreclosure process since its inception. The Sheriff is truly the only non-interested party once the paperwork is received by the Sheriff.

The changes that are being suggested is an affront to the mortgagee. The process is set to hurry the process along to protect the mortgage holder. From residential appraisals, advertisements and private sellers to the conclusion of deed preparation the deed.

As currently defined, the disinterested party appointed by the Sheriff is being undermined. Qualifications to be an appraiser must be a licensed real estate broker, salesperson, or appraiser. The real estate market will love SB 135 because it expedites the process and protects their own staff, family and friends.

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PAST PRESIDENTS CURRENT SHERIFFS

2021
Keith A. Everhart
Hardin County

2019
Matthew J. Lutz
Muskingum County

2018
Michael L. Simpson
Preble County

2017
Mark Wasylshyn
Wood County

2016
Randy Thorp
Licking County

2007
Vernon P. Stanforth
Fayette County

Our belief is that if we, as Sheriffs and you as legislators want an independent foreclosure system you should return to the previous system established many years ago prior to being dissected in the early 2000's.

If you should have any questions, I would be willing to try and answer them.

Respectfully submitted.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Robert A. Cornwell". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping underline that extends downwards and to the right.

Robert A. Cornwell
Executive Director