



"Our Logo
Identifies Us"

POLICE AND FIRE RETIREES OF OHIO INC.
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Benefiting over 20,000 Retirees

Organized April 1948

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Ohio Senate Judiciary Committee

Proponent Testimony for SB 16

February 22, 2021

Chairman Manning, Vice Chairman McColley, Ranking Member Thomas and members of the Ohio Senate Judiciary Committee, thank you for allowing me to provide written proponent testimony for Senate Bill 16 on behalf of the Police and Fire Retirees of Ohio (PFRO). My name is Gary Monto, and I am President of the Police and Fire Retirees of Ohio.

The PFRO and its present 34 affiliated local chapters consisting of over 20,000 members, across the State, continue to advocate for policies that promote the health, safety, and welfare of all members in the Ohio Police and Fire community before the Ohio Police & Fire Disability and Pension Fund and the Ohio State Legislature.

It is with the countless years of service and dedication, in addition to the expertise in the field, that the PFRO and its members support Ohio Senate Bill 16. This bill would provide further protections for Ohio's first responders and their families from acts such as felonious assault, arson, false complaints, and intimidation.

Our first responders put their lives at risk every single day through their commitment to the safety of their communities. SB 16 provides necessary protections for these individuals and their families, especially as recent events have highlighted the actions, threats, and intimidation experienced by officers and firefighters on and off the job.

We thank Senator Schaffer for proposing this piece of legislation, and respectfully request your consideration and passage of this important policy. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out at pfrostateoffice@gmail.com or 614-866-1352.

Respectfully,

Gary L. Monto

President

Police & Fire Retirees of Ohio, Inc.