

# Ohio Police & Fire Pension Fund

140 East Town Street / Columbus, Ohio 43215-5164 / Tel. (614) 228-2975 / [www.op-f.org](http://www.op-f.org)

Dec. 3, 2018

The Honorable Jay Hottinger  
Senate Building  
1 Capitol Square, Ground Floor  
Columbus, OH 43215

Dear Chairman Hottinger,

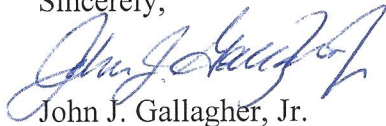
Please accept this letter as interested party testimony to the portion of Senate Bill 317 requiring a retiree member of the Ohio Police & Fire Pension Fund (OP&F) Board of Trustees to serve as chair.

A primary concern of allowing a retiree to serve as the OP&F Board chair is that this important leadership role would then be making decisions on benefits they are currently receiving as an OP&F retiree. Having an active trustee as the chair removes this appearance of conflict of interest. Members have also argued retiree representatives had their entire active career to serve on and be chair of the Board.

However, the OP&F Board and the interested parties have been discussing the issue and anticipate debate on the topic at the May Board when rules are adopted.

We urge you and your colleagues to allow the OP&F Board to review and create its own rules concerning this issue. The OP&F Board of Trustees have successfully managed the retirement system for more than 50 years. Please allow the Board to continue to self-govern on this important topic.

Sincerely,



John J. Gallagher, Jr.  
Executive Director