



# Ohio State Firefighters Association

**Christopher Peterson – President**

1055 Salt Springs Road

Warren, Ohio 44481

1-888-414-6732 (Office)

(330) 442-4121 (Cell)

## **Testimony by President Christopher Peterson before the Ohio House of Representatives Ways & Means Committee in support of House Bill 143**

Chairman Schaffer, Vice Chair Lipps, Ranking member Rogers, and members of the House ways & Means committee...

My name is Christopher Peterson, I am a Captain on the Lordstown Village Fire Department in Lordstown, Ohio. I have been a member with the department for 16 years. I am also the President of the Ohio State Firefighters Association which represents the interest and welfare of over 20,000 firefighters with the state of Ohio in mind. I am here today on behalf of myself and on behalf of The Ohio State Firefighters Association. Thank you for the opportunity to testify on behalf of HB 143 (Volunteer Firefighter/EMT Tax Credit)

I am writing this testimony today in support of this bill, we believe this bill will greatly benefit Volunteer Firefighters across the state that give so much in the service for the safety of their community. Volunteer firefighters will sometimes give back to their community with little to no compensation. Some volunteers will even use personal funds and time to pay for training. In addition to putting fuel in apparatus, and purchasing tools and equipment. I believe this will greatly help with firefighter recruitment/retention. Approving this tax credit will also give support back to a firefighter that serves their community.

Chairman Schaffer, Vice-Chairman Scherer, Ranking Member Rogers, and Members of the House Ways & Means Committee, thank you for accepting this written testimony and please feel free to contact me with any questions you may have.