

Written Testimony of John Stover President, Ohio Value Voters Senate Judiciary Committee Senate Bill 359 December 2, 2020

Chairman Eklund, Vice Chairman Manning, Ranking members of the Committee. My name is John Stover and I am the President of Ohio Value Voters. Our organization promotes the values of Faith, Life, Families and Religious Freedom. Since 2007, our purpose has been to educate, inform, and influence voters and elected officials in Ohio. We are independent of any political party, religious organization or political action committee. Ohio Value Voters is a registered 501(c)(4) organization.

Our organization supports the passage of Senate Bill 359.

Senator Schaffer's bill will enhance penalties for those committing acts of violence against first responders, fire fighters and police officers. Over the past year, we have witnessed numerous acts of violence against those which put their life on the line to protect the people of our state.

Many have retired early or found another profession due to the threats against them and their families. Here in northeast Ohio, those in law enforcement have left the profession due to the increase acts of violence.

It is respectfully requested that the committee votes to pass Senate Bill 359.