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March 21, 2023

Rep. Haraz N. Ghanbari Chair, House Homeland Security Committee 77 South High Street, Floor 13 Columbus, OH 43215

Dear Rep. Ghanbari,

We write on behalf of the Trustees, members, beneficiaries and stakeholders of the Ohio Police and Fire Pension Fund (OP&F), as parties interested in the discussions regarding Ohio House Bill 84, specifically the provisions of the bill which would permit police officers to be hired at the age of 18.

In consultation with our independent actuary, we have determined that there is no apparent negative impact on our pension fund by allowing a public safety officer to begin his or her career at the age of 18.

Normal service retirement eligibility at OP&F is age 52 with at least 25 years of service. These officers would be subject to the same requirements as all other new members of OP&F, and would be required to work until age 52 to qualify for a normal service retirement, thereby lengthening their careers if they did begin at age 18. There could be impacts of working longer and at an earlier age, but no impacts are known now and would be an element we studied if the bill was to pass.

At this time, speaking only to the impact on OP&F, we see no negative impact to our funding or operations.

We thank you for the opportunity to comment and remain at your service to provide information needed when considering the bill.

Sincerely,

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Mary Beth Foley, Esq. Executive Director