



**Ohio Association of Chiefs of Police
Proponent Testimony – House Bill 167
House Homeland Security Committee**

Chair Ghanbari, Vice Chair Plummer, Ranking Member Thomas, and members of the House Homeland Security Committee, my name is Chief John Wenzlick. I currently serve as the Chief of Police of Ottawa Hills and the President of the Ohio Association of Chiefs of Police. I appreciate the opportunity to submit written testimony in support of House Bill 167.

The Ohio Association of Chiefs of Police applauds the work that the bill sponsors, Representative Abrams and Representative Miranda, have put into this legislation to update the Ohio Revised Code as it relates to training for chiefs of police.

House Bill 167 will give the Ohio Peace Officer Training Commission the ability to determine different locations for training courses, which will expand the flexibility for chiefs-in-training to attend courses based off their regional location. By reducing the travel time required to attend training courses, police chiefs will be able to utilize that time by continuing to protect their communities.

In addition, House Bill 167 allows the Ohio Peace Officer Training Commission the ability to offer advanced training to those law enforcement officers who are at or above the rank of a sergeant. Expanding this coursework to eligible officers will better prepare our workforce when serving the citizens of Ohio.

The Ohio Association of Chiefs of Police also appreciates the updates made to the definition of “newly appointed”.

As you know, proper training is crucial to keeping Ohio’s police chiefs on top of emerging updates in the law and effective tactics and techniques. We appreciate the efforts made throughout this bill to update training requirements. Again, thank you for the opportunity to submit written proponent testimony in support of House Bill 167.