



**Written-Only Proponent Testimony – Ohio HCR 6 (Plummer; King)**

Police and Fire Retirees of Ohio, Inc.

Ohio House Pensions Committee

May 9, 2023

Chairman Young, Vice Chairwoman King, Ranking Member Lightbody, and Honorable Members of the Ohio House Pensions Committee:

Thank you for allowing me to provide written proponent testimony for HCR 6 on behalf of the Police and Fire Retirees of Ohio (PFRO).

The PFRO and its present 34 affiliated local chapters consisting of over 20,000 members across the state of Ohio continue to advocate for policies that promote the health, safety, and welfare of all members in the Ohio Police and Fire community before the Ohio Police & Fire Disability and Pension Fund and the Ohio Legislature. PFRO has continually advocated for the protection of Ohio's retired Police Officers, Firefighters, and Widows/ers belonging to the Ohio Police & Fire Pension Fund, including policy changes that are in the best interest of the organization's members.

With countless years of service and dedication, the PFRO and its members support HCR 6, urging Congress to repeal the Federal Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP). Our police officers and firefighters put their lives on the line to protect us and keep our communities safe. They deserve to receive the benefits they have earned during their service. We must stand up for these individuals who have dedicated their lives to protecting us and our families.

The strongly bipartisan federal legislation, H.R. 82/S. 597 – titled the Social Security Fairness Act of 2023, addresses the disparity under the WEP and GPO, which do not recognize the rightfully earned Social Security Benefit and public pension benefit. H.R. 82 will provide meaningful relief to current retirees and public employees while treating all workers fairly. We thank you for recognizing our careers as Ohio Police & Fire Retirees. As a result, PFRO believes both the WEP and GPO are severely flawed in practical application and require repeal.

HCR 6 will send the correct signal from the Ohio Legislature to the U.S. Congress about the increasing need for action on the WEP. We sincerely appreciate Vice Chairwoman King and Representative Plummer for sponsoring HCR 6. We thank you, Chairman Young, and members of this committee for the thoughtful and thorough consideration of this resolution.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at [pfrostateoffice@gmail.com](mailto:pfrostateoffice@gmail.com) or 614-866-1352.

Respectfully,

Gary L. Monto  
President  
Police & Fire Retirees of Ohio, Inc.