



# OHIO PATROLMEN'S BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION

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Chairman Mathews, Vice-Chair King, Ranking Member Piccolantonio and members of the House Pensions Committee, I am Tom Austin, Executive Director of the Ohio Patrolmen's Benevolent Association (OPBA) and I am writing to express support for HB296. As a police organization, the OPBA knows a financially secure pension system is vital for the recruitment and retention of police officers. We also know that even after the 2012 benefit reductions and increase of employee contributions the OP&F pension system is presently underfunded.

The OPBA supports the reasonable and gradual increase of the employer contribution to guarantee the continued security of the fund. The sooner these needed changes are made the quicker the fund is stabilized. OPBA urges the committee to approve HB296.

Sincerely,

Tom Austin, Executive Director  
Ohio Patrolmen's Benevolent Association

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