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**Testimony to the Senate Ways and Means Committee
Supporting HB2094
March 25, 2021**

Chairman Billinger and Committee Members:

Our associations appreciate HB2094 as refined with the substitute bill. Our veterans and first responders not only put their lives on the line, but they also put their future at risk of disruption from disability. We will focus on the law enforcement first responders in our testimony.

When a law enforcement officer is killed or disabled in the line of duty, the officer's entire family is placed in stress not only emotionally, but financially as well. HB2094 will assure the officer's children will not lose their financial ability for a post secondary education. For the spouse, it creates an education avenue to place them in a profession to replace the loss of income from their deceased or disabled spouse.

This is a commendable position for the state to take. It recognizes the sacrifices of not only the deceased or disabled first responder or veteran, but also the sacrifice of their children and spouse.

We respectfully ask you to move this bill forward.

Ed Klumpp
Legislative Liaison