



## FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE OF OHIO, INC.

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February 7, 2011

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

**Every cop knows it's dangerous to be outnumbered.** And that's what's happening now in Ohio government – we may be outnumbered, politically.

Here's the latest. Our new governor and many of his allies in the Ohio House of Representatives and Ohio Senate have said they want to make extreme changes in the rights of police officers. According to news reports, **this could include doing away with collective bargaining for law enforcement and our ability to go to binding arbitration if management wants to stonewall us.**

These basic protections were fought for decades ago and have been relied on by Ohio law enforcement as an issue of simple fairness.

**Pension reform is also on the way and we need to be sure that any reform is based on insuring the solvency of the systems and not on kicking public employees for political reasons.**

The changes being considered are a real threat to our jobs. Lawmakers may already have the votes to make these changes and do it very quickly. But there's still time to stop that from happening.

**Your FOP leaders have been working hard to organize an effective response.** Here's what we've done already:

1. Reached out to all major law enforcement organizations in Ohio and asked them to join together for this fight. They've agreed.
2. Partnered with Ohio firefighter organizations, because they face the same changes and because we are all in a similar situation as public safety professionals.
3. Engaged an experienced Ohio communications consulting firm that will help us organize our efforts in a way that our voices can be clearly heard. The FOP – including the Grand Lodge – has utilized this firm, with success, before.

4. Begun preparing advertising, social media, and press outreach to let Ohioans know that we need their help, in the same way they count on us to help them when they're at risk.

**But all of this work will cost money.** It could be a lot of money. That's why your leadership has approved an assessment of \$7.00 per member.

We know you already pay dues.

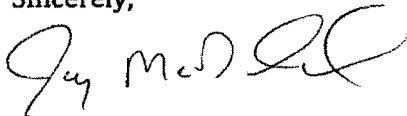
We know you've been hit hard by the economy and government cutbacks.

But we approved the assessment because we believe – strongly – that some of the extreme changes being considered may be the biggest threat to the jobs of police and firefighters in our careers.

**Quick action is necessary.** Paying your assessment won't be the end of it. You'll still be needed to make phone calls, write letters, send emails and other activities that will help us all protect that which we've earned.

While we are seriously concerned about what might happen this year, we remain optimistic that – if we all work together – we can safeguard our jobs and our benefits.

Sincerely,



Jay McDonald  
President  
Ohio Fraternal Order of Police

P.S. If you have any questions about what's happening and why we're reacting this way, we welcome them. We've even set up a special email account so we can field any inquiries or comments you have about this issue. The address is [questions@fopohio.org](mailto:questions@fopohio.org).

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE  
FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE OF OHIO, INCORPORATED**

**WHEREAS**, the Fraternal Order of Police of Ohio is dedicated to the advancement and protection of law enforcement officers, and

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Trustees of the Fraternal Order of Police of Ohio, Incorporated has been made aware that there will be a serious attempt made in the current session of the General Assembly of the State of Ohio to amend Ohio Revised Code Section 4117 in ways detrimental to the interests of its members and subordinate lodges, and

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Trustees of the Fraternal Order of Police of Ohio, Incorporated finds that since the current law went into effect in 1984, it has worked well in mediating the interests of its members and the employers that they work for, and

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Trustees of the Fraternal Order of Police of Ohio, Incorporated finds that such amendments that are proposed would seriously and adversely affect the careers and working conditions of its members, and

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Trustees of the Fraternal Order of Police of Ohio, Incorporated is held responsible for the financial security of the State Lodge, and

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Trustees of the Fraternal Order of Police of Ohio, Incorporated has reviewed the 2011 budget of the corporation and made extensive cuts to services and charities ordinarily funded on a year to year basis by the corporation, and

**WHEREAS**, members of the Ohio State Lodge continue to expect a high level of service, and

**WHEREAS**, the Fraternal Order of Police of Ohio, Incorporated has no funds available to mount a campaign to protect the collective bargaining rights of its members and member lodges, and

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Trustees of the Fraternal Order of Police of Ohio, Incorporated finds that this proposal and the needs of our membership create a financial emergency which, if not addressed immediately could lead to the destruction of the Fraternal Order of Police in Ohio, and


**WHEREAS**, the Board of Trustees of the Fraternal Order of Police of Ohio, Incorporated must follow Article V, Section 2 of its constitution and by-laws which provide as follows:


c. In the event of financial emergency the Board of Trustees may, upon the affirmative vote of not fewer than ten (10) members of the Board, make a per capita assessment each subordinate lodge. The Board of Trustees shall cause written notice of an assessment to be furnished each subordinate lodge. The notice of assessment shall set forth the amount thereof and the reason for its levy.

**THEREFORE** be it resolved, that the following assessment of seven dollars (\$7) per member is hereby imposed upon each lodge and shall be collected by each local lodge and forwarded to the State Lodge by February 25, 2011. Failure to pay this assessment by February 25, 2011 shall cause the local lodge to be “not in good standing” unless otherwise provided for by the President of the Board of Trustees of the Fraternal Order of Police of Ohio, Incorporated. Adopted by unanimous vote of the Board of Trustees of the Fraternal Order of Police of Ohio, Incorporated.

SUBMITTED BY:  
STATE BOARD OF TRUSTEES,  
Fraternal Order of Police of Ohio, Incorporated

January 28, 2011.

  
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Mark Drum  
State Secretary

  
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Jay McDonald  
State President