



FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE STATE LODGE OF MICHIGAN



December 11, 2019

Chairman Hernandez
House Appropriations Committee

Mr. Chairman and distinguished members of the Michigan House Appropriations Committee:

My name is Michael Sauger, and I'm the current State President of the Michigan Fraternal Order of Police. The Fraternal Order of Police is the nation's largest and oldest law enforcement organization and we have been representing police officers in Michigan since 1939.

On behalf of our over 10,000 members in Michigan, we strongly support House Bill 4426. As we lace up our boots and go to work, we kiss our loved ones goodbye. While we expect to come home after our shift, we know, there is a chance we won't. We accept that. We understand that. We do it knowing our family will be provided for and protected when we are gone. House Bill 4426 will do just that, by adjusting the outdated language which promised a benefit, but due to so much red tape, was not truly available to the surviving children.

Last summer, the ribbon was cut on a memorial several blocks from the Capitol building. On those panels, is etched the names of police officers who have died protecting the citizens of Michigan. These men and women gave their all and paid the ultimate sacrifice. House Bill 4426 will ensure that for all future names etched on those panels, the citizens of Michigan, will be providing for and protecting the families left behind. I encourage you to vote in favor of House Bill 4426.

Yours truly,

Michael Sauger, State President
Michigan Fraternal Order of Police

