Mike DeWine, Governor Jon Husted, Lt. Governor Sherry Maxfield, Director

Senator Shane Wilkin, Chair Sunset Review Committee The Ohio Statehouse 1 Capitol Square Columbus, Ohio 43215

Re: R.C. 3743.67 - Ohio Fire Code Rule Recommendation Committee

Sunset Review Committee Hearing: May 22, 2024

Senator Wilkin:

Effective February 7, 2022, House Bill 172 of the 134th Ohio General Assembly established the Ohio Fire Code Rule Recommendation Committee (OFCRC) in Revised Code (R.C.) 3743.67. The OFCRC is scheduled for examination at the Sunset Review Committee hearing on May 22, 2024.

Per R.C. 3743.67(B), the following persons were designated as members of the OFCRC:

- "(1) The state fire marshal, or the state fire marshal's designee;
- (2) Four local fire chiefs appointed by the Ohio fire chiefs' association, or appointed by the association's designee;
- (3) A local police chief appointed by the attorney general, or the attorney general's designee:
- (4) Five members of the Ohio state pyrotechnics association, appointed by the president of the association, one of whom shall be a licensed wholesaler, one of whom shall be a licensed exhibitor, and one of whom shall be a licensed manufacturer;
- (5) One member of prevent blindness Ohio, or the organization's designee;
- (6) One member of the Ohio optometric association or the association's designee;
- (7) One member of the Ohio pyrotechnic arts guild or the organization's designee;
- (8) One representative of the Ohio chapter of the American academy of pediatrics, appointed by the president of the Ohio chapter; and
- (9) One member of the Ohio council of retail merchants or the council's designee."

As described in R.C. 3743.67(A), the purpose of the OFCRC was to review Chapter 3743. of the Revised Code and make a recommendation by June 7, 2022, to the State Fire Marshal (SFM) concerning:

- "(1) Sections 3743.02, 3743.03, 3743.04, 3743.06, 3743.15, 3743.16, 3743.17, 3743.18, and 3743.19 of the Revised Code;
- (2) Section 3743.45 of the Revised Code relating to the purchase of 1.4G fireworks from licensed manufacturers or wholesalers;
- (3) Section 3743.75 of the Revised Code relating to the moratorium on licenses;
- (4) State fire marshal rulemaking of building code requirements for 1.3G manufacturing facilities; and
- (5) Development of a state licensing program pursuant to section 3743.75 of the Revised Code."

The OFCRC meet multiple times in the spring of 2022 and forwarded written recommendations concerning R.C. Chapter 3743 to the SFM on April 28, 2022. The OFCRC cancelled a planned meeting in August of 2022 that was intended to review fireworks activity during the 2022 season and has not met or conducted any other activity since that time.

Based upon the OFCRC fulfilling its primary statutory duty and not meeting or conducting any other activity for approximately two years, the SFM recommends that this committee not be renewed during the Sunset Review Committee process.

If you need any additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me at:

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Sincerely,

Kevin S. Reardon State Fire Marshal

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