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Chairman Wilkin, Vice Chair Hillyer, and members of the Joint Sunset Review Committee, thank you for providing me the opportunity to testify to recommend the continuation of the Ohio Private Investigation and Security Services Commission. My name is Mark Porter, and I am the Director of the Ohio Department of Homeland Security.

Per ORC 4749.021, the OPISSC was created when licensing moved from the Ohio Department of Commerce to the Ohio Department of Public Safety. The first meeting took place in January 2005.

The commission creates a forum for a broad cross-section of private security and investigations professionals and law-enforcement officials to provide expertise and advice to the Ohio Department of Public Safety's Private Investigator Security Guard Services (PISGS) division, which licenses and regulates providers of security and private investigations services.

Members of the board include the Ohio Department of Public Safety Director (or designee), the Superintendent of the Ohio State Highway Patrol (or designee), and 12 members appointed by the Governor, to include, owners of a security/private investigation company (Class A Licensee), owners of a private investigation company (Class B Licensee), owners of a security company (Class C Licensee), law enforcement and general public

ORC 4749.021 requires the OPISSC to meet quarterly, at a minimum. From January 2019, through April 2024, the OPISSC met 24 times. Seventeen scheduled meetings were cancelled due to no quorum, nine meetings were cancelled at the request of the OPISSC, and one meeting could not occur in the absence of the Chair/Vice-Chair.

OPISSC members volunteer their time to ensure state regulators are responsive to the wants and needs of the industry. The State has not incurred any costs for members' mileage during this period. Ohio Homeland Security Staff supports the commission. Thank you for your time and consideration, and I am available to answer any questions you may have.