



**Senator Gayle Manning**  
**13<sup>th</sup> Ohio Senate District**

**Senator Tom Patton**  
**24<sup>th</sup> Ohio Senate District**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

January 25, 2012  
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**MANNING AND PATTON PRESENT ‘BLUE ALERT’ PROPOSAL TO HOUSE**

*NEW ALERT PROCEDURE WOULD ADD PROTECTION TO POLICE OFFICERS, PUBLIC*

*COLUMBUS* – State Senators Gayle Manning (R – North Ridgeville) and Tom Patton (R – Strongsville) went before the House Committee on Transportation, Public Safety, and Homeland Security today to provide sponsor testimony on Senate Bill 258. The measure aims to establish a statewide “Blue Alert” system in Ohio.

A Blue Alert utilizes broadcast systems to provide the public with a description and other information regarding potential suspects in the event that a law enforcement officer is injured or killed while on duty. More than a dozen states have already implemented similar programs.

“It is a given truth that in every community across Ohio, so many of us are protected by a brave and selfless few,” Manning said. “A system such as this will provide added safety to our men and women in uniform while in the field.”

Senator Patton also added his thoughts on the legislation’s merits.

“Clearly, a perpetrator who is willing to harm an armed police officer would show little hesitation in going after an unarmed citizen. A bill like this will help in deterring these dangerous and malicious offenders.”

Manning and Patton worked with Chief Cel Rivera of the Lorain Police Department and Lorain FOP President Kyle Gelenius in crafting the legislation. The bill has also received the endorsement of Ohio Attorney General Mike DeWine.

Prior to moving to the Ohio House, the Senate offered unanimous approval of the Manning-Patton legislation.

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*Senator Gayle Manning represents the 13<sup>th</sup> Ohio Senate District, which encompasses Lorain and Huron counties and eastern portions of Seneca County. Her office can be reached by phone at (614) 644-7613 or by e-mailing SD13@senate.state.oh.us.*

*Senator Tom Patton represents Ohio's 24<sup>th</sup> Senate District, which contains a portion of Cuyahoga County. He currently serves as the Majority Floor Leader and Chairman of the Senate Highways and Transportation Committee.*