



Ohio Senate
Statehouse
Columbus, Ohio 43215

Statement from Senator Frank LaRose Regarding Senate Bill 5

COLUMBUS – State Senator Frank LaRose (R-Akron) issued the following statement today regarding the passage of Senate Bill 5:

“Acknowledging that our state faces an unprecedented fiscal crisis, I stood on principle yesterday and voted for Senate Bill 5. This bill helps restore balance to the public employee collective bargaining process, while also protecting the rights of our state’s hardworking public service employees.

I opposed the initial version of the bill based on fundamental objections I had with a few of its provisions. By standing steadfast on what I believed to be fair, I was able to work with my colleagues to protect the essential right of employees to collectively bargain. I also successfully led the effort to remove language that could subject strikers to imprisonment. With these important changes to the bill, I was able to reach a middle ground and address what I saw as flaws in the initial legislation.

A robust debate is crucial to the process of crafting public policy. I sincerely value and respect the position of those who oppose my vote. It is however intolerable and unproductive to resort to mean-spirited personal attacks and senseless threats. Those who engage in such behavior degrade the necessary public discourse and demean their own cause as well. The citizens of our state deserve better. Let’s work through these tough issues together and maintain civility in the process.

The people of our community sent me to Columbus to stand up for them and make tough decisions based on what’s in the best interest of all Ohioans. I agonized over this decision and ultimately cast my vote based solely on what I believe is right. My vote was not, and never will be, motivated by political considerations or outside pressure. Anyone who says otherwise does not know me or understand my unwavering commitment to serving the citizens of our community. I am duty bound to do what’s best for Ohio, even when it may be unpopular. We must work together to bring prosperity back to the Buckeye State.”

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