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**Testimony to the Senate Judiciary Committee  
In Support of SB232  
March 17, 2015**

Chairman King and Committee Members,

For several years our associations have been trying to find meaningful solutions to the filing of fraudulent liens against sheriffs, police chiefs and other public officials. This bill takes two steps toward controlling these fraudulent liens.

It is difficult to know exactly how many of these false filings are committed. However we know anecdotally these cases are revealed every few years. There are likely currently active fraudulent liens we don't yet know about since they typically aren't discovered until the public official tries to sell their property.

One provision of this bill is an attempt to stop a person from continuing their fraudulent filings. This is accomplished by requiring court approval to file future liens once a lien the person has filed is found to be fraudulent. This provision is found in Section 1, subsection (c)(3) on page 2 starting on line 9.

The second is to create a criminal penalty for knowingly filing a false lien. This is a provision that we understand several states have done. We believe this is a credible law to establish and will likely be a strong deterrent against committing the crime in the first place. This provision is found in new section 2 starting on page 2 line 43.

We respectfully request the committee to recommend this bill favorably for passage.

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