



PRESS RELEASE

From Mayor Dean DePiero

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Ohio Municipal League to support Parma Mayor's effort to appeal Federal judge's ruling that allows some sex offenders to live near schools

(Parma, OH) – The Ohio Municipal League said in a letter today to Parma Mayor Dean DePiero that the organization will file an “Amicus Brief” in support of overturning a federal judge’s decision earlier this week that allows some sex offenders to live near schools. Last Tuesday, DePiero wrote the OML asking its support to have the ruling overturned.

It was the same day that Judge James Gwin in Akron U.S. District Court ruled that the state can’t block sex offenders from living near schools if they committed their crime before legislators enacted the ban in 2003. Judge Gwin found that the 1,000-foot restriction to be unconstitutional punishment when applied to earlier offenses.

“I am pleased that the Ohio Municipal League will join the City of Parma in its effort to have Judge Gwin’s ruling overturned,” DePiero said. “Parma has been successful in removing sex offenders who have violated the state’s residency requirements. We wish to continue having the ability to do so.”

The Ohio Municipal League is a voluntary association of 798 cities and villages throughout Ohio. Founded in 1953, the League lobbies on behalf of cities and villages before the Ohio General Assembly and state agencies. The League also provides an extensive program of education for municipal officials, does research on municipal issues, and provides legal advocacy for municipalities. DePiero is second vice president of the Columbus-based organization.

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