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Testimony of Arthur Towers
OTLA Political Director
In Support of House Bill 4110
Before the House Committee on Judiciary
February 3, 2022

Chair Bynum, Vice Chairs Noble and Power, members of the committee, thank you for the opportunity to testify on HB 4110, which improves access to police reports for crime victims

Our members represent crime victims in civil proceedings in which these victims are seeking to hold both perpetrators of crimes and other responsible parties accountable for their actions. In many instances, these victims have experienced sexual abuse.

With this set of victims in particular, it is astounding to us that it can be so difficult for victims to get access to these records particularly in cases in which there is no active investigation or in cases that are many years old.

There are so many vital reasons for crime victims to gain access to these records:

- To make the case for crime victim compensation
- To help determine if the victim should file a civil case
- To strengthen the request for a protective order or restraining order
- To advance the cause of restorative justice.

We were part of the negotiations on this topic leading into this session, and were disappointed with the pace and nature of those discussions. We understand that this topic will likely be subject to continued conversations regardless of the fate of this bill and we will continue to engage.

That said, crime victims deserve action now. This is a good bill and we urge you to vote Do Pass on House Bill 4110. Thank you for your consideration.