



National Police Association  
8710 Bash Street #501692  
Indianapolis, IN 46250  
NationalPolice.org

TESTIMONY ENCOURAGING THE PASSAGE OF HB 437: An Act that will protect homeowners with Thin Blue Line flags from HOAs by codifying the ability to display a flag that utilizes the same emblems and proportions utilized by the United States flag, regardless of the colors used, without any additional emblems or text.

Testimony to the Florida House Judiciary Committee April 11, 2023

It has been the observation of the National Police Association that the Thin Blue Line flag has been under attack from those who wish to silence support for law enforcement officers. However, homeowners who support the police fly this symbol of gratitude for those who put their lives on the line every day to protect our communities, and those who have given their lives and deserve the protection of government.

The flag is a symbol of honor and respect for our law enforcement officers. It represents the courage and selflessness of these individuals who have dedicated and sometimes given, their lives to serving and protecting us.

This flag represents the good that police officers do in our communities every day. It is a powerful reminder of the sacrifices they have made to keep us safe.

By flying the Thin Blue Line flag, homeowners are expressing their support for the men and women in law enforcement who are constantly under attack from the media, activists, and criminals. Police officers are unfairly portrayed as villains and aggressors, but the reality is that they risk their lives every day to maintain law and order in our society.

The beauty of the Thin Blue Line and the flag in which it is embedded should stand as a unifying force among people of good faith and peaceful intention. It must not be relegated to the ever-increasing waste bin of political correctness where the slightest offense to any tender soul defines hate speech.

Flying the flag or sporting a blue line decal requires courage these days. There are those willing to commit violence against those who subscribe to the ideals which the blue line announces. Vandalism and violence against free expression have always been the great enemy of our rights. When the lawless become brave and the law-abiding become fearful, it is then that we need the Thin Blue Line the most.

Finally, it is worth noting that the Thin Blue Line flag is not the only symbol that has been under attack in recent years. The American flag, the national anthem, and other symbols of patriotism have been

maligned by those who seek to undermine our country and its values. We must not allow the Thin Blue Line flag to be hidden away.

The National Police Association believes homeowners who support law enforcement should be proud to fly the Thin Blue Line flag. This symbol of honor and respect represents the dedication and sacrifice of our police officers who put their lives on the line every day to protect us. Those who seek to silence support for our law enforcement officers are engaging in a smear campaign against our brave men and women in blue. We must protect the freedom to stand up for our police officers and show them the gratitude and respect they deserve.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.