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To Whom It May Concern:

I would like to thank Chairman Schaffer, Vice Chair Scherer, Ranking Member Rogers and Members of the House Ways and Means Committee for the opportunity to speak on House Bill 105. I am currently a Pultney Township Trustee in Belmont County, Ohio. I also serve as President of the Belmont County Township Association. I am glad to see under this bill that some of the severance tax dollars would be brought to the oil and gas region especially the section that allocates for road and bridge repair. Presently in my township alone we are experiencing at least 6 major road repairs that total \$900,000 just sort of our annual total budget. Two embankment failures which could end up with not just a loss of the roads could end up with the loss of homes or even lives of the people living in those homes. One of the embankment failures is fortunately going to be funded by Ohio Public Works emergency funding. Because of lack of money it took over two years to get the funding. Luckily this did not turn into disaster.

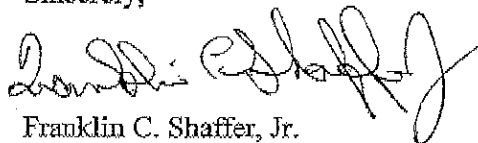
Some of the roads that have embankment failures no longer are able to receive mail service, school bus pickup for children and emergency and fire vehicle protection. At some point we may have to close roads until a funding source is found. These situations are happening all over the county. The residents of Belmont County would deeply appreciate this bill.

Other sources of funding for Townships is Ohio Public Works Issue 1 funding. This is a highly competitive grant and most Townships cannot afford matching dollars and this bill would help them greatly.

The end result would be better for economic development throughout the county which would better our state.

Thank you again from all the people in my area for letting me have the opportunity to speak on their behalf.

Sincerely,



Franklin C. Shaffer, Jr.