

We in the Ohio Bicycle Federation join our friends in the Rail to Trails Conservancy in opposing HB 288. In prohibiting the use of eminent domain to create or extend Ohio trails, HB 288 would make trail development and expansion in Ohio more difficult. Trails throughout Ohio bring tourism and much other business to their surrounding communities. Many Ohioans commute to work via our trails as they become avenues of active transportation taking traffic off our roadways. Thus, trails are more than just recreational. HB 288 unnecessarily extends a local county issue statewide.