

**Ohio House Energy and Natural Resources Committee**  
**House Bill 401**  
**Proponent Testimony**  
**November 19, 2019**

Chairman Vitale, Vice Chairman Kick, Ranking Member Denson and Members of the Committee:

We are writing to express our support for House Bill 401 (Reineke Referendum). We are second generation Seneca County residents. We were first made aware of the Republic Wind project approximately two years ago. We initially did a lot of research on our own when we became aware of the proposed wind projects slated to enter Seneca County and surrounding counties. It was after extensive research and the pursuit of trying to understand how placing turbines in a zoned township can occur without the say of the people who are exposed to these industrial wind projects. We live in Pleasant Township which is a zoned township. Our property lies less than a quarter of a mile outside the Republic Wind project. The closest proposed turbines are approximately one mile from our home. We have had absolutely NO say in this process! We have absolutely nothing to gain by these turbines, and everything to lose, yet we are silenced in this process. The only individuals who benefit are those with financial gains of hosting a turbine, good neighbor agreement, or power line transmissions. Why is it that the property owners in Pleasant Township didn't even become aware of this project for 8 to 10 years after the first leases were signed? Why is it that these industrial wind projects are not subject to local zoning?

We are asking, pleading, demanding a voice. You have the ability to do the right thing which is allow the actual people who live in these townships the right to have a voice in the process. We are asking for your support in passing House Bill 401 and giving us that voice in the process.

Thank you for your support in House Bill 401.

Sincerely,

*J. Dian West*  
*Anthony W West*

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