

Support for HB 401 and SB 234

I own farms in Erie, Huron, Sandusky, Seneca, and Lorain counties. I am also co-owner of a diversified seed farm, one of only three in Ohio that grow and produce hybrid seed corn. All of my land except that in Lorain County will be impacted by proposed wind products.

Bats are very beneficial in the control of agricultural pests. Wind turbines will effect RTK guidance systems used by most farmers today for precision planting, spraying, and fertilizer placement. Turbines will hinder aerial crop spraying. Building turbines especially in a fragile karst area will create drainage issues and many other unforeseen problems. Farming is Ohio's number one industry. Commercial industrial wind projects do not compliment working farms. In life I believe in avoiding avoidable harm. Stopping problems starts before intrusion projects are built.

I have farmed for 45 years and lived in Oxford township for 65 years. When my neighbors chose to live in a rural community zoned for agriculture they knew they may experience agricultural nuisances from time to time. Now that industrial commercial wind projects are being forced in our rural townships the residents want to have a say if 655 foot tall wind turbines are to be placed in their backyard with out regard to shadow flicker, noise, and safety concerns. These bills will give rural residents a say in this life changing event. The trustees of Oxford Township are in litigation and have stated they do not want a wind project in the township.

These bills will give residents a voice in the process of wind projects and allow setback distances to conform to manufacturers recommended distances. This will stop projects in some townships and let them be built where they are welcomed. If these bills become the law in Ohio, residents would not have to pay legal fees fighting wind projects they do not want. I am sure these good people that live in rural Ohio would rather find charities and other good causes to donate their time, talent and monies to instead of fighting wind projects. This will put the voice back in the process.

Thank You,



Gerard A. Wensink