

#25

In support of HB401 and SB234

November 18, 2019

My name is Sharon Schreiner. I am a resident of Groton Township in Erie county Ohio. My property is abutting the proposed Emerson creek wind farm.

My voice was taken away when the state of Ohio allowed industrial wind development to be exempt from local zoning.

I find it incomprehensible that a single industry had the power to manipulate the government of Ohio into changing local zoning laws without input from the residents involved. Local Zoning is designed specifically so the residents of an area have the right to say how their communities are to be developed.

I have heard arguments from the wind developers and the OPSB that we have a voice through our local trustees and commissioners. This is a fallacy because the trustees have no power and the commissioner decision making is limited to PILOT or no PILOT

The land owners that will reap the benefits of a wind project are a small percentage of the population. They report everyone is in favor of these projects. This is false. It's time to find out the true numbers by letting people have a vote.

Having a voice by having a vote is what it means to be an American. Removing the voice of the people by not allowing a vote, even at this level, is a slippery slope to disenfranchisement and marginalization of rural America.

I support the legislators that are sponsoring this legislation. These are true representatives and are doing the job they were elected to do: Representing the will of the people and they need to know what that will truly is.

*Sharon Schreiner*