

April 21, 2019

Dear Senator Eklund,

I am taking time from my inordinately busy life today to write to you to give record of my testimony regarding SB 33.

I have followed the progression of this supremely un-American legislation since its first iteration in the seriously flawed SB 250, last year.

That this un-American law has continued to be proposed and supported by some of our Ohio legislators is truly alarming to me, causing me to question the moral integrity and competence of those who have been entrusted with the responsibility to act on behalf of Ohio citizens.

On its face, this proposed legislation is an obvious attempt to intimidate, muzzle, and punish dissident opinion. It is extreme in its punishment. Laws are already on the books to deal with trespassing and vandalism. To draft a law that protects commercial interests over residents' concerns, and then remove the ability of redress by those residents when the commercial operations threaten residents' quality of life, is tantamount to fascism. It is incompatible with our most basic lawful rights and legal protections, on both the state and federal levels.

If there are those in the halls of the Ohio Congress who wish to remove the most basic and sanctified rights of the state's people to voice their disapproval when other methods have not proven successful—civil disobedience, which is the hallmark of a healthy, functioning democracy—then, those legislators are suspect of abuse of their privilege to represent the people.

I ask you to review our great country's essential documents, such as the Declaration of Independence and US Constitution. I ask you review classic historical issues like The Boston Tea Party. I ask you to honor your position of responsibility and authority to deny any such attempts to muzzle dissidence, diversity of opinion, and civil disobedience.

Thank you for your considerate attention. I hope to hear that you have supported a healthy, democratic future for our great state of Ohio.

Sincerely,

Shelley Stark

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