

13 Dec 2019

ERIE COUNTY TOWNSHIP ASSOCIATION



From: Erie County Township Association

To: Board of Directors, Ohio Township Association

CC: Representatives - Reineke, Cross, Hambley, Jones, Lang, Lipps, Perales, Richardson, Riedel, Seitz, Smith, Stein, Swearingen and Senators – McColley, Rulli, Hoagland, Manning, S. Huffman, Coley, Brenner, Burke, M. Huffman, Gavarone

Subject: **SUPPORT FOR H.B. 401 AND S.B. 234 REGARDS REGULATION OF WIND FARMS AND WIND TURBINE SETBACKS**

At a regular meeting of the Erie County Township Association held on 12 December 2019 with a majority of members present, the Erie County Township Association voted unanimously to request that the Ohio Township Association carefully review and consider public backing of H.B.401 and S.B. 234. Many of you may already know the content of the bills is "to amend sections 4906.10, 4906.13, 4906.20, and 4906.201; to amend, for the purpose of adopting a new section number as indicated in parentheses, section 519.214 (519.215); and to enact new section 519.214 and sections 4906.101 and 4906.203 of the Revised Code to require inclusion of safety specifications in wind farm certificate applications, to modify wind turbine setbacks, and to permit a township referendum vote on certain wind farm certificates". The important and key points of these bills are summed up in two words, safety and vote.

The Erie County Township Association endorses these two bills because they put township residents' safety and voice in government foremost in regard to industrial wind farm projects that can have a large impact on them and their community. Members also realize, that by supporting the bill, they are not endorsing or rejecting industrial windfarm projects, but are simply improving safety standards and constituents voice in government. Our membership, as typical of most township official bodies, firmly believes that the government closest to the people has the best feel for the interests of its voters and these two bills have the core interests of the voters and local control as their theme. For these reasons we respectfully request your support.

Ron A Brown

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