



Ohio's "6119" Regional Water & Sewer Districts

Chairman Wilson
Ranking Member Williams
Members of the Senate Energy and Public Utilities Committee

Re: Support for HB 264

Dear Chairman Wilson, Vice Chairman McColley, Ranking Member Williams, and members of the Senate Energy and Public Utilities Committee:

Thank you for allowing me to provide written comments on behalf of the Coalition of Ohio Regional Districts (CORD) in support of HB 264, legislation allowing the Ohio Water Development Authority (OWDA) to make loans and grants available to entities for the financing **and refinancing** of loans made for projects.

CORD is a non-profit association established to assist, protect, and advance the interests of Ohio's regional water and sewer districts, also known as "6119 Districts" since they are established under Chapter 6119 of the Ohio Revised Code. 6119 Districts provide potable water, sanitary sewer, and storm water services to over 1 million customers in the State of Ohio.

As you heard from the sponsors, water and wastewater systems can often get locked into high interest loans. Allowing systems to refinance those loans to more favorable interest rates is a commonsense approach that will be a benefit to the citizens they serve.

On behalf of CORD, I would like to thank Representatives Wilkin and O'Brien for introducing this legislation and encourage this committee's support.

Sincerely,

John B. Albers
Coalition of Ohio Regional Districts (CORD)
Executive Committee Member