



State Senator Jay Hottinger
Senate Bill 114 Sponsor Testimony
Senate Local Government, Public Safety and Veterans Affairs Committee
April 9, 2019

Chairman Uecker, Vice-Chairman Brenner, Ranking Member Maharath, and members of the Senate Local Government, Public Safety and Veterans Affairs Committee, thank you for the opportunity to provide sponsor testimony on Senate Bill 114.

This legislation will expand the authority of a township to regulate noise within the unincorporated area of the township.

Current Ohio Revised Code section 505.172 limits noise regulations to the unincorporated territory of the township where a D permit has been issued by the division of liquor control or areas zoned for residential use. Some townships in rural areas are experiencing excessive noise disturbances that are generated from outside of areas zoned for residential use, but from within the unincorporated areas of the townships.

This issue was brought to my attention last year by constituents and township trustees in Licking County. Numerous complaints arose about excessive noise from a concert venue in a rural part of the county. Local residents wanted the township and county to regulate the noise levels, but current Ohio law didn't grant them the authority to do so. As a result of this issue, I began working with the Licking County Prosecutor's office to draft the bill that is before you today.

Senate Bill 114 will allow township trustees to adopt regulations and orders that are necessary to control noise that is generated anywhere within the unincorporated territory of the township. This bill will address the concerns of residential property owners and give local governments the tools they need to enact reasonable regulations for excessive noise in townships.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide sponsor testimony today on Senate Bill 114.