

The Honorable Ron Young
Chairman House Economic Development,
Commerce, and Labor Committee
Ohio House of Representatives
Columbus Ohio, 43215

Chairman Young and Members of the House Economic Development, Commerce,
and Labor Committee,

I would like to express my support for HB163, allowing subdivisions to elect to
apply prevailing wage.

For far too long, communities like my own have been forced to take more from the
taxpayers in order to fund necessary projects to the benefit of our citizens. State
mandated prevailing wage on all projects that cross the threshold has inflated the
cost of projects, limiting or altogether stopping needed investment in our city.
Millions of dollars in new taxes has led to depressed environments in municipalities
across Ohio.

I support this legislation because it does not dictate from Columbus that we have to
accept no prevailing wage. HB163, instead, states that we at the local level have a
choice.

Too often, Columbus has dictated local policy to the detriment of self-governance at
the local level. If only the legislature would follow this lead on more legislation. It is
a shame that the state legislature always seems to override the home rule
components of our state constitution by making every law a general law.

This is a step in the right direction for self-governance and also for fiscal
responsibility.

Thank you,

Nathan Martin
4th Ward City Councilman
Shelby, OH