

State Representative

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Sponsor Testimony for HR 85

Before the House Federalism and Interstate Relations Committee

April 16, 2017

Chairwoman Roegner, Vice Chairman Lipps, Ranking Member Leland, Members of the House Federalism and Interstate Relations Committee, thank you for giving me the opportunity to bring before you House Resolution 85. This new resolution, House Resolution 85, mirrors HCR8 in every way except one, it is a House Resolution rather than a Concurrent Resolution. As I'm sure you know a House Resolution only requires the support of the House as opposed to both Chambers as is required of a Concurrent Resolution. As you may recall House Concurrent Resolution 4 urges Congress and President Trump to:

- Amend the Federal Clean Air Act to encourage the Administrator of the USEPA to explore alternatives to the E-Check Program.
- Direct the Administrator of the USEPA to begin new rule-making procedures under the Administrative Procedures Act to review the 2015 National Ambient Air Quality Standards.
- Pass legislation to achieve improvements in air quality more efficiently while allowing companies to innovate and help the economy grow.
- Urge the Administrator of the USEPA to alleviate burdensome requirements of the E-Check Program and the Clean Air Act if Congress and the President fail to act; and to encourage OEPA to explore alternatives to E-Check in Ohio.

I am sure that you recall me standing before you March 21st with HCR 8 and you might be wondering why I am now here with HR 85? One of the factors motivating this unique action is that there seems to be much vacillation on this issue at the federal level and legislation related to this issue is already in the committee process.

Congress has recently introduced HR 806 which has been co-sponsored by three Ohio Congressmen. I believe, it is imperative that a message from the Ohio House be sent to Congress ASAP as they are currently considering this legislation. HR806 does calls for a delay of the implementation of the 2015 standards to 2025 and changes the 5-year review to 10 years. This legislation does not however call for close review of e-check and I think it is important that we get a reminder in their hands that a sizable portion of Ohio is still subjected to e-check. Just considering E-check alone, with the implementation of the 2015 air standards, the number of counties impacted in Ohio by this intrusive program would be expanded from 7 to 34 according to interested party testimony from the Ohio Chamber of Commerce.

It has been said, according to a 2014 study, that more than 100 state and national parks would probably even be out of compliance of the 2015 standards. A few of those that are listed in the report include Death Valley National Park, Sequoia National Park, Cape Cod National Seashore and even Ohio's Deer Creek State Park.

Thank you for considering this Resolution in an expeditious manner. I would be happy to answer any questions at this time.