



**Norbert A. Nadel**  
**Hamilton County Recorder**  
**Written Proponent Testimony on House Bill 343**  
**December 12, 2017**

Good morning Chairman Schaffer, Vice-Chairman Scherer, Ranking Member Rogers, and distinguished members of the House Ways and Means Committee – thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on House Bill 343. As Hamilton County Recorder and 40 plus years as a judge in southern Ohio, I write in strong support of House Bill 343.

House Bill 343 provides fairness and transparency by requiring proper notification to property owners before a property tax complaint is filed with the Board of Revision to raise property values. Elected school board members should be held accountable for attempting to raise property taxes, not just their attorney.

This agreement incentivizes powerful attorneys to file as many complaints as possible, without any input from property owners before a challenge is filed, and without strong vetting by elected officials. House Bill 343 will create a more favorable climate for investing in Ohio and better suit residential and commercial property owners.

It is imperative that commercial, industrial, and residential properties receive the same due process specific to property taxes. Many times, commercial/industrial property owners are not registered to vote where their property investment is located. In turn, many business owners cannot vote on the elected officials that are allowing, with limited or no input, their properties to be attacked by taxpayer-funded attorneys.

If the current process continues without any protections for taxpayers – jobs, income and sales tax revenue for local subdivisions, and homeownership in communities across Ohio will diminish. I urge the committee to support this legislation.

Sincerely,

Norbert A. Nadel