

TESTIMONY OF GARY BIGLIN
RICHLAND COUNTY
IN OPPOSITION TO Sub. H. B. 114

To revise the provisions governing renewable energy, energy efficiency, and peak demand reduction and to alter funding allocations under the Home Energy Assistance Program.

Chairman Balderson, Vice Chairmen Jordan, Ranking Member O'Brien and members of the Committee. I am here to speak against any revision of the setbacks for industrial wind turbines that would measure the distance from a home rather than a property line. I also object to any proposed reduction of the current 1,125-foot setback from property lines.

My name is Gary J. Biglin. I am a farmer in Sharon Township, Richland County, Ohio. I have turned down wind developer lease agreements twice for a project in my area.

The Ohio Constitution since 1851 has in article 1 of its Bill of Rights that: "All men are, by nature, free independent, and have certain inalienable rights, among which are those of enjoying and defending life and liberty, acquiring, possessing, and protecting property, and seeking and obtaining happiness and safety".

Note the last word SAFETY. I would hope the legislature would not allow or condone the taking of one property owners rights without due compensation and force them to assume any risk in regard to safety past their property line. The fundamental rights of ALL property owners need to be protected. The placement of an industrial wind turbine setback for health and safety will only protect all property owners when the distance is measured from the property line ONLY.

Any measurement other than from the property line is infringing on a non-participating property owner's.

While participating property owners in a proposed wind project area have the right to sign a lease, property owners that choose not to participate or assume any and all risk associated with such a project have that right which starts at their property line.

The Ohio General Assembly need not side with one property owner's development and condone infringement on a neighboring property. Simply apply any and all industrial wind turbine setbacks from the property line only. This assures the rights and safety mentioned in Article 1 in the Bill of Rights in our Ohio Constitution are applied equally to all Ohio property owners.

Thank you for allowing my testimony.