



OHIO AGGREGATES & INDUSTRIAL MINERALS ASSOCIATION

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Re: Proponent Testimony Senate Bill 33 on Behalf of the Ohio Aggregates & Industrial Minerals Association.

Chair Callender, Vice Chair Wilkin, Ranking Member Smith and Members of the House Public Utilities Committee, on behalf of the over 200-member companies of the OAIMA we urge your support of Senate Bill 33. This bill, the "Ohio Critical Infrastructure Protection Act," is written to provide much needed safeguards for our state's critical infrastructure.

Our industry and the products and services our members provide are indeed critical to all Ohioans and we appreciate our inclusion in the industries that are protected. Increasing penalties on a civil and criminal basis for individuals, and organizations that pay individuals, to impact the essential operations here in Ohio will ensure those behaviors are punished or fined appropriately. Furthermore, such penalties and fines will serve as a deterrent for anyone thinking about committing such sabotage.

Again, on behalf of the members of the Ohio Aggregates & Industrial Minerals Association we urge your support of SB33.

About The Ohio Aggregates & Industrial Minerals Industry

With nearly 200 members statewide, the Ohio Aggregates and Industrial Minerals Association represents Ohio's producers of limestone, sand and gravel, slag and other construction materials, as well as a variety of industrial minerals. Aggregates and industrial minerals are the basic elements in all construction activity and any economic recovery in Ohio depends upon good, quality, local and reliable resources. 99% of construction aggregates are mined and used locally, generally within 50 miles of where they are extracted.

Limestone, sand and gravel and slag are the state's most fundamental building blocks. For instance, concrete is composed of 85% aggregate while asphalt is comprised of approximately 95% aggregates. It is important to note that over 50% of all aggregates are purchased with tax dollars.

Ohio has over 500 aggregates and industrial minerals operations in 87 Ohio counties. The industry employs nearly 3,200 people with average wages exceeding \$46,000. Another 40,000 Ohioans are employed indirectly in Ohio's minerals industry such as truck drivers, electricians, mechanics and other supply and supporting professions. In addition, for every dollar spent on aggregates, an additional \$1.58 is added back into the economy.