

RE: Ohio Senate Bill 33

Dear Senator Eklund,

I ask you to please oppose Senate Bill 33. This bill, if passed, would have a chilling effect on free speech and citizen's rights to protest. Levying additional fines and punishment above and beyond those which are already on the books seems to be designed to silence environmental advocates. Enacting laws designed to specifically protect certain industries from the scorn of citizens fighting for the future of our climate, the air we breathe and the water we drink places the rights of industry over the rights of the public. This seems to be grossly unjust and far outside of the protections of our constitution. There are already laws against trespassing and against violent protest. Piling on additional fines and moving the classification to felony level is unnecessary. Holding organizations liable for actions of an individual seems to be a clear over reach as are the penalties 10 times higher than those of the individual. Targeting the organizations in such a way certainly seems to be intended to dismantle environmental advocacy. Please reject Senate Bill 33.

Thank you.