

My name is Josefa Soto. I am a resident of Columbus, and I am writing in opposition to SB 33.

SB 33 is both redundant and unnecessarily punitive, and as an Ohio voter who has given significant amounts of time and energy to raise awareness about local environmental issues, I am committed to spreading the word about the actions our state legislature is considering.

Even though the bill is riddled with vague language that is concerning on its own, one aspect of SB 33 has left me deeply worried about its ramifications. Specifically, the matter of targeting organizations and imposing inordinately harsh penalties to the tune of 10 times those imposed on individuals is unreasonable and unfair.

Organizations have limited control over their members' actions, and the potential for sabotage is too great. Court dockets are rife with cases in which industries have sought recourse against individuals who have performed acts of civil disobedience. SB 33 seeks to impose draconian fines and penalties for the sake of silencing a sector of society that seeks to protect our precious natural resources.

I urge a NO vote on SB 33.

Thank you.

Josefa Soto

Written testimony is a public record and may be posted on the Ohio Senate's website