

Even without flowing water, ephemeral streams serve to collect, infiltrate, and treat stormwater before it reaches downstream waterways. Ephemeral streams are natural features and our first line of defense from water pollution, stream bank erosion and flooding protection, all of which have costly environmental and economic impacts. Ohio EPA estimates there are more than 36,000 miles of ephemeral streams in Ohio, which has huge potential for negatively impacting residential and business landowners.

Eliminating oversight of the streams means that development or other land uses will eliminate these without any requirements to mitigate the impacts to the streams and/or the costs associated with doing so.

Removing them from protection may provide cost savings to business in Ohio in the short term but long-term businesses, government, and residents will pay the price of increased water pollution, nutrient runoff, and flooding as well as ongoing impacts to fish and other wildlife.

Please vote NO and do not pass HB 175 out of committee. A no vote will help protect our valuable natural resources, our quality of life, and our economy.

*Please be advised that this form and any materials (written or otherwise) submitted or presented to this committee are records that may be requested by the public and may be published online.*