



Working together for Ohio farmers to advance agriculture and strengthen our communities.

April 27, 2021

The Honorable Jason Stephens
House Energy and Natural Resources, Chair
77 S. High St.
Columbus, OH 43215

Dear Chair Stephens,

As you may know, Farm Bureau policy supports a diversified energy portfolio and an all-of-the-above approach to energy generation. Singling out any form of generation to ban is not good business policy for the State of Ohio. Furthermore if cities are able to implement these bans, this will create a patchwork of local regulatory challenges for developers. Our policy supports uniformity in Ohio's regulations, which takes place at the state level.

Farm Bureau policy also supports coal and natural gas specifically as part of the aforementioned diversified energy portfolio. Developing our own natural resources reduces dependence on foreign fossil fuels, and to do so, we have to have domestic demand. Natural gas is the most readily available and economic form of generation in the country and especially Ohio. Farmers operate with small margins and continually battle the rising costs of doing business. Energy is their second highest input cost, and bans on readily available, cost effective sources will only raise those costs.

HB 201 would prevent local governments from instituting such a ban on fossil fuels, which Farm Bureau would like to see applied to all forms of energy generation. We appreciate your thoughtful consideration of the bill and hope you will continue to promote Ohio's natural resources.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jenna Reese".

Jenna Reese
Director of State Policy
Ohio Farm Bureau Federation

Cc: Vice Chair Stewart
Ranking Member Weinstein
Pat Tully