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SUMMITLANDBANK.ORG

Ways and Means Committee
The Ohio House of Representatives, 134th General Assembly
Columbus, Ohio

November 28, 2022

Re: Substitute Senate Bill No. 112

Chair Merrin, Vice Chair Riedel, and Ranking Member Sobecki:

On behalf of the Summit County Land Bank, located in Akron, Ohio, I write to ask for your support of Substitute Senate Bill No. 112.

There are now 65 county land reutilization corporations, or county land banks, working to strengthen Ohio communities. County land banks are responsible for returning more than 30,000 abandoned, vacant, blighted, and tax-delinquent properties back to productive tax use and leveraging more than \$1 billion in investment.

The Summit County Land Bank has leveraged more than \$75 million in public and private investment, improving thousands of properties, and positively impacting neighborhoods and communities throughout Summit County, thanks to your continued support.

To remain relevant and adapt to the changing needs of Ohio's diverse neighborhoods and communities, Ohio's land bank law must be updated. Ohio's communities depend on the work of county land banks to address issues of abandonment, vacancy, and blight, and to support vital community and economic development efforts.

Substitute Senate Bill No. 112 provides critical updates to tax foreclosure and land banking law in Ohio. Unanimously approved earlier this year in the Senate, we now ask for the same support in your committee and on the floor of the House in this current General Assembly.

Thank you for your consideration, for your continued support of Ohio's land banks, and for all you do for Ohio communities!

Sincerely,

Patrick Bravo

Executive Director, Summit County Land Bank
President, Ohio Land Bank Association