



November 28, 2022

Ways and Means Committee
The Ohio House of Representatives
Columbus, Ohio

Re: Substitute Senate Bill No. 112

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

On behalf of the Lucas County Land Bank based in Toledo, Ohio, I write to ask for your support of Substitute Senate Bill No. 112.

County land banks are one of the most successful creations of the Ohio General Assembly in the last decade. By designing a tool that can act as nimbly as the private sector without the need for general taxpayer funding, county land banks have helped to return over 30,000 vacant and abandoned properties to productive use, leveraging over \$1 billion in investment for Ohio's communities.

In Northwest Ohio, the Lucas County Land Bank has led these efforts, returning over 7,000 abandoned properties to productive use in urban, suburban, and rural neighborhoods, generating over \$50 million of public and private investment, and creating homeownership opportunities for hundreds of local residents. The Land Bank has truly made people's lives better, and it is a testament to your continued support that this tool has remained so vital.

Like any dynamic enterprise, county land banking law must be tweaked on the edges to stay relevant and adapt to the needs of Ohio's diverse communities. Sub. S. B. No. 112 makes these important technical changes to tax foreclosure and land banking law in Ohio. The bill was unanimously approved by the Senate early this year, and we hope and expect that it will find unanimous support in your committee and on the floor of the House before the end of this General Assembly.

Thank you for your timely consideration of this important bill, and more importantly, thank you for all that you do for your constituents and Ohio's communities.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David Mann".

David Mann
President & CEO