



Defiance County
Board of Commissioners
Mick Pocratsky, Ryan Mack, and David S. Kern

March 8, 2021

Dear Senate President Matt Huffman and House Speaker Robert Cupp,

The Defiance County Commissioners would like to offer their unanimous support of Senate Bill 52, and its companion legislation of House Bill 118.

Solar and wind development projects are one of the only economic development projects that are not required to adhere to local zoning laws and regulations prior to the development. We feel that these projects should have at the very minimum the checks and balances required in these two pieces of legislation.

Also, solar and wind energy projects are very polarizing for the local communities. This legislation allows the local community and local governmental leaders to have a say in the project, prior to it moving forward. These types of decisions should not be completely made by people who do not live in, or have any ties to, the affected area. The local community should have a say in the development of their community.

This legislation would not cause any financial hardships to the renewable energy companies. It would only add additional time to the beginning of the proposed project.

We strongly urge you, and your colleagues, to consider the approval of Senate Bill 52, and its companion legislation of House Bill 118, to allow the local communities a say in solar and wind development projects.

Sincerely:
Defiance County Commissioners


Mick Pocratsky


Ryan Mack


David S. Kern