



May 31, 2022

The Honorable Rob McColley  
Chairman  
Senate Energy and Public Utilities Committee  
1 Capitol Square  
Senate Building, 2<sup>nd</sup> Fl. North  
Columbus, OH 43215

**RE: House Bill 430 Written Proponent Testimony**

Dear Chairman McColley:

The Ohio Oil and Gas Association (OOGA) is a statewide trade association representing both independent conventional producers and large independent horizontal operators exploring Ohio's shale play. OOGA membership also consists of midstream companies, large-scale transmission line companies, contractors, oilfield service and supply providers, manufacturers, gas utilities and various other professional entities.

Our industry employs more than 208,000 Ohioans that provide affordable, abundant energy for all our state's citizens. Our operators are committed to doing the job in a manner that is safe for both their fellow industry workers and the people they serve.

OOGA previously testified in support of House Bill 430. Our organization continues to support the bill. We would like to highlight an amendment expected to be added in committee. Ohio is one of two states (Texas) with dedicated funding for orphan well plugging. Ohio has tens of thousands of orphan oil and gas wells across the state. These are wells that were drilled sometimes over 150 years ago and there is no owner responsible for the care of the well. The amendment to House Bill 430 would help streamline Ohio's well plugging programs and clearly define an "orphan" well. OOGA worked closely with the Ohio Department of Natural Resources on this issue and is in support of the amendment.

OOGA urges swift committee passage of the bill. You can contact me with any questions at [rob@ooga.org](mailto:rob@ooga.org).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rob Brundrett".

Rob Brundrett  
President