



Representative Roy Klopfenstein

82nd House District

Chairman Hillyer, Vice Chair Mathews, Ranking Member Galonski, and members of the House Civil Justice Committee, thank you for the opportunity to offer sponsor testimony on House Bill 212.

When Representative King first approached me about this legislation, I thought about it from my perspective as a farmer and the necessity to protect our state's most valuable asset our farmland, but as we have dug into this issue our state has real vulnerabilities around our military bases and critical infrastructure and this legislation will close those gaps, by prohibiting adversarial nations to the United States from purchasing property within 25 miles of military bases or critical infrastructure.

Our plan to capture these bad actors is through the land conveyance form and requiring an affirmation that the buyer and seller are not prohibited from purchasing under the provisions of the bill and it grants our local sheriffs the ability to investigate and refer any violations to the county prosecutor.

We know that our enemies are actively shopping in Ohio. In my district we had a company, Fufeng Group, look at purchasing 400 acres of land with rail access. This same company attempted to purchase land in North Dakota last year, which raised the concerns of the Assistant Secretary of the Air Force Andrew Hunter, who said "... the Department's view is unambiguous: the proposed project presents a significant threat to national security...".

I respectfully ask for your support of this legislation. Thank you all for your time and we will take questions at this time.