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Committees

Energy and Natural Resources
Committee

Insurance Committee

Public Utilities Committee

Rules and Reference Committee

Sharon A. Ray

State Representative

Assistant Majority Whip

Chairman Swearingen, Vice Chairman Santucci, Ranking Member Upchurch, and members of the House Economic and Workforce Development Committee – thank you for the opportunity to provide sponsor testimony on HB 276.

As you may know, we are here to discuss legislation that came as a result of constituent concerns about a highway interchange in Medina County. HB 276 will specifically repeal a portion of the State Transportation Budget, which would require the Ohio Department of Transportation to construct an I-71 interchange on Boston Road in the City of Brunswick.

This proposed interchange was the result of one community – Strongsville – trying to legislate a neighboring community – Brunswick – to fix a problem **they** created. This interchange is bad for Brunswick and all of Medina County for financial and safety reasons and is just bad policy overall. It is also, in my opinion, a violation of the Ohio Revised Code and the United States Highway Code requiring local support.

This interchange would place an unbearable financial obligation on the City of Brunswick, requiring millions of dollars of investment to widen and change the current country road into a suitable highway, requiring among other costs, the relocation of a jet fuel line.

One of my goals as a legislator is to make our Ohio communities the best place to work, live and raise a family. This interchange would do the exact opposite of this creating an inevitable

increase in traffic and the demolition of dozens of homes in the middle of a populous residential area.

Representative Miller and I are committed to protecting our communities and doing what's best for our constituents. This interchange is **not** what's best for the people and City of Brunswick and surrounding areas of Medina County.

Chairman Swearingen, Vice Chairman Santucci, Ranking Member Upchurch and members of the House Economic and Workforce Development Committee, thank you again for the opportunity to address you today. We would be happy to answer any questions from the committee at this time.