

Chair Swearingen, Vice Chair Santucci, Ranking Member Upchurch, and members of the House Economic & Workforce Development Committee,

Thank you for allowing my testimony today. My name is Kathleen Ambrose. I live in Brunswick Hills, Ohio. I am a retired teacher who taught in the Parma City Schools for thirty-eight years.

I am strongly in favor of House Bill 276, Interchange Exit Ramp Repeal. The Medina County Commissioners, the City of Brunswick, Hinckley Township, and Brunswick Hills Township have all passed resolutions against the building of this interchange. The proposed interchange is a violation of existing law and established precedent.

Boston Road is a two-lane residential street that is extremely hilly. If an interchange is built there, Boston Road would undoubtedly need to be widened to four lanes. That would place a tremendous financial burden on Medina County and the communities involved. Strongsville states this interchange is needed because they have a traffic congestion problem in their city. Their own study shows that this interchange would have a minimal positive impact on their problem.

My husband and I own a very nice rental home on Boston Road in Brunswick. We purchased it as an investment, and we have put a lot of work and money into transforming it from a bit of an eyesore in the neighborhood. The house is extremely close to the proposed interchange. It may not be close enough to lose by eminent domain, but it would become an undesirable place to live due to traffic, noise, and safety issues. We would be forced to either sell the house at a greatly reduced price or drastically reduce the amount of rent that we would be able to charge our tenants. Even more important than our financial loss, many families in the area would lose their homes to the building of this unnecessary and unwanted interchange.

I ask that you take my testimony into consideration and support this very important bill. Thank you for allowing my testimony.