



Seneca County General Health District
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RESOLUTION 2023-10

Resolution of the Seneca County Board of Health, Ohio, for the purpose of endorsing support of Senate Bill 119 introduced in the 135th Ohio General Assembly

WHEREAS, Senator Bill Reineke introduced Senate Bill 119 in the 135th Ohio General Assembly and Seneca County Commissioners expressed full support of the bill as provided by Seneca County Commissioner Tony Paradiso during the May 23, 2023 Senate Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee hearing; and,

WHEREAS, Senate Bill 119 makes significant changes pertaining to existing Ohio laws, granting regulatory agencies the authority and responsibility to exercise greater oversight of landfill facilities; and,

WHEREAS, Senate Bill 119 recognizes the importance of local perspectives and community impact in landfill decisions. By requiring applications for new solid waste facilities or expansions to consider public benefit, convenience and necessity, Senate Bill 119 ensures that Seneca County residents have a voice in determining the future of their own community. This change will rectify the long-standing issues of local voices being disregarded, ensuring that decisions regarding landfill operations truly serve the best interests of our residents; and,

WHEREAS, Senate Bill 119 offers a solution to challenges posed by federal Interstate Commerce law and Ohio's concerns regarding out-of-state trash. Interstate Commerce law prevents charging higher fees for out-of-state refuse, inadvertently incentivizing other states to use Ohio as a convenient dumping ground. Senate Bill 119 aims to remedy this issue by equalizing disposal fees regardless of the origin of the waste; and,

WHEREAS, Senate Bill 119 establishes a local landfill oversight fund supported by a \$1 per ton fee, empowering local health districts to enforce waste laws and enhance oversight of community well-being; and,

WHEREAS, Ottawa-Sandusky-Seneca Joint Solid Waste Management District collects approximately 90% of its budget from the landfill located in Seneca County. However, the allocated budget by the Joint Solid Waste Management District for oversight at the landfill facility is 2.4% of the district's budget. This imbalance forces our residents to endure many of the problems associated with having a landfill. Furthermore, the current law does not allow Seneca County to leave the Joint Solid Waste Management District. Senate Bill 119 provides the solution for Seneca County to be able to create its own district. This change would strengthen oversight measures, instilling confidence in our residents and assuring them that their health and well-being are our top priorities.

THEREFORE, the Seneca County Board of Health is aligned with Senator Bill Reineke and the Seneca County Commissioners in our shared commitment to confront the pressing issue of unregulated out-of-state trash and the imperative need for enhanced oversight of landfill facilities in Ohio.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Seneca County Board of Health is urging the Ohio Senate Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee and all of Ohio legislators to vote in support of Senate Bill 119.

The Seneca County Board of Health, Ohio, met in a regular meeting on the 25th day of May 2023.

Board member Dr. West moved to adopt the proposed resolution and Board member Mr. Lyons seconded the resolution, and the roll being call on its adoption, the vote resulted as follows:

Scott Lyons [Signature]

McKenzie Posey [Signature]

Sarah E. Sewell, DO [Signature]

Natasha Vitte [Signature]

Allen Weinandy [Signature]

Zachary West, DO, Vice President [Signature]

Clay Wolph, DC, President [Signature]

I, Laura Wallrabenstein, Seneca County Board of Health Secretary, hereby do certify that the above is a true and correct resolution adopted by said Board under said date.

[Signature]

Seneca County Interim Health Commissioner Laura Wallrabenstein, Board of Health Secretary