



Bill Reineke
State Senator
26th Senate District

Bob Hackett
State Senator
10th Senate District

RE: Sponsor Testimony – SB 156

Chair Kick, Vice-Chair Lear, Ranking Member Rogers, and members of the House Energy and Natural Resources Committee; thank you for allowing my joint-sponsor and I to present sponsor testimony on Senate Bill 156.

The idea for this legislation came from a constituent in Sandusky County. Given the current concerns regarding the “Wild, Scenic or Recreational River Act” which is the current statute, all proposed river designations are on hold until these items are resolved.

This legislation would remove the creation of a “Wild, Scenic or Recreational River Area” which is described as a 1,000-foot corridor along a designated river, due to concerns from river front property owners regarding the loss of private property rights.

The bill would also define “Scenic River Lands”, clarify posting requirements for public notices of the Director’s “Intent to Designate”, and extend the public comment period to 60 days. It would clarify that designation of a

watercourse does not provide any governmental entity the ability to restrict the use of private property, clarify the Director's approval authority over publicly funded projects with the 1,000-foot corridor and retain advisory councils for each designated river and expand membership eligibility.

Chair Kick, members of the committee, thank you once again for allowing us to present sponsor testimony, we would be happy to take any questions at this time.