



*Working together for Ohio farmers to advance
agriculture and strengthen our communities.*

December 8, 2023

The Honorable Bill Roemer, Chair
House Ways and Means Committee
Ohio House of Representatives
77 S. High St.
Columbus, OH 43215

Dear Chair Roemer,

Ohio Farm Bureau's mission is to work together for Ohio farmers to advance agriculture and strengthen our communities. Creating an incentive to use a high-ethanol blend (E15) is very much in line with that motto, as ethanol has helped to reduce our country's dependence on foreign crude oil, reduced air pollution, increased farm incomes, and provided quality jobs throughout rural America.

While Ohio ranks 7th in the U.S. in ethanol production with an annual production capacity of 732 million gallons, there is still tremendous growth potential in the ethanol fuel market. At a time when our farmers are facing unprecedented challenges from market volatility, planting issues, high input costs, and low commodity prices, a tax incentive would certainly boost demand and ultimately benefit Ohio corn growers.

In addition to the benefits for farmers, this legislation will likely decrease the cost of gasoline at the pump and allow Ohio's retailers to compete with other states that have already embraced high-ethanol blends. E15 is a sustainable biofuel that can help reduce air pollutants and improve overall air quality. This legislation would foster partnerships to increase opportunities for farmers, retailers, and ultimately, consumers.

Ohio Farm Bureau supports opportunities for expanding retail operations and creating wide-range availability in the consumer marketplace. Ohio Farm Bureau supports HB 324, and we thank Rep. McClain for sponsoring this important piece of legislation that could benefit all Ohioans, and ask for your support of this opportunity.

Sincerely,

Whittney Bowers
Director of State Policy and Grassroots Engagement
Ohio Farm Bureau Federation

Cc: Rep. Riordan McClain