

Good afternoon Chair Schaffer, Vice Chair Landis, Ranking Member Hicks-Hudson, and the members of the Senate Agricultural and Natural Resources Committee. My name is Susan Platt, and I'm a resident of Seneca County. I am honored to be here today to offer proponent testimony for Senate Bill 119 on behalf of other Seneca County residents affected by the massive amount of out of state trash coming to our community.

I would like to highlight a few very important provisions in Senate Bill 119 that will provide Ohioans more local control and put us on the same level playing field as other states. Ohio trash rates, per ton, have not been changed since 1992. This makes it very profitable for New York to send and dump toxic waste, medical waste, and construction materials containing lead, and other hazardous materials into our community. Sunny Farms Landfill is located in Seneca County and 99% of their trash stream is out of state and received by rail. The owners of the landfill are not residents of Ohio and enjoy making millions of dollars by putting our health and safety at risk. Derailments of trains coming to the landfill are a norm. We actually have pictures of a train derailment that took place just in the last 30 days. Unfortunately, Ohio EPA is not assisting us in ensuring proper monitoring of the landfill. In a public meeting on May 11, 2023 by Ohio EPA, the following question was asked (and the video and audio of this meeting are also available): "How many times did the Ohio EPA test ground water at the landfill in the past 12 months?" The answer? "None." The follow-up question was: "Is Ohio EPA planning to test the ground water in the next 12 months to provide peace of mind to the residents around the landfill?" The answer: "We have limited staff." We deserve better; Ohioans deserve better. We ask you to please consider approval of Senate Bill 119 to ensure proper and fair rates for all trash coming to Ohio's landfill.

We are ordinary people who work, live, and raise our children and grandchildren in this beautiful state. Many of us are families that have Ohio Century Farms. We don't have the money or expertise to fight a multi-million-dollar business. You will probably hear from the landfill representatives during the opponent testimony how everything is sunshine and rainbows. Please don't be fooled. Please listen to the local citizens who are directly affected by the landfill. Take the time to come and see the disaster that they are leaving behind. Hundreds of train cars with out-

of-state trash are sitting along the roads in Seneca County. Rain and snow create toxic water that runs into our ditches, creeks, and rivers. As a result, drinking water around the landfill is contaminated. Often, the air is unbreathable. We poisoned our community by allowing out-of-state businesses to dump in our back yard. Our only hope now sits in your hands. We are pleased to support Senate Bill 119 and would like to thank Senator Reineke for introducing this bill to ensure Ohioans are protected from the toxic and hazardous out-of-state trash coming to Ohio.

Thank you for allowing me to speak today.

- Susan Platt