

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 Nate Heiser, and I'm a lifelong resident of Fostoria. 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.

First off, I would like to speak about the joint agreement within the OSS (Ottawa, Sandusky, and Seneca). This agreement has many flaws. An overview if you will: I will speak about the unfair balance and negative impacts it has and how this bill will help protect targeted communities such as ours.

**Points to include:**

-9 to 3 votes always

-Ottawa and Sandusky commissioners do not represent the values coming from our county. We are being held hostage.

-Illegally amended host agreement, no public notice, took away only oversight we had and brought them more money.

-We need more local control; this bill will provide just that.

-Raising the fees is a much-needed step to market us less favorable for out of state dumping. Has not been done in some time.

Secondly, the consent order. Another overview: I will explain how the consent order put the landfill in a protected class. Allowing them to pollute as much as they wanted, raising all the limits. Allowing them to work outside of state law requirements without penalty.

**Points to include:**

-Been in consent order for over 20 years, went from one consent order into another one without ever being in compliance with state law. Opposite from normal operations of other county landfills.

-No PDS permit, EPA admits to making a mistake in 2014 by letting them operate without one.

-Violation of the clean air act for decades.

-Illegally pumping leachate into water retention ponds that eventually feed into Lake Erie.

In closing, while this may have started as a "not in my backyard issue ", it has since been learned that this waste by rail problem exists all across Ohio, and out of state waste is devastating communities all across the state and putting more toxins into Lake Erie. If nothing is done to stop this problem, we may be facing massive cleanup costs if multiple landfills start leaking across the state when liners fail from C&DD punctures, lack of oversight and the potential for hazardous waste to enter and contaminate our groundwater all over Ohio. The cleanup costs could be astronomical, and the health impacts could also financially devastate Ohio. The short-term financial gain could never offset the damage done. We could ultimately become a Superfund STATE if this problem is ignored much longer.

My sister lives right beside the landfill, it was her husband's family farm. Been in the family 3 generations. We no longer have family gatherings at her house. The air and smell have ruined all the

good times we used to have there. They still at times must hold their breath going from the car to the house. They lived there long before the waste by rail started. Their property value plummeted. No one will buy their house.

A half of a mile away I was at my mother and father-in-law's house two weeks ago, was going to help with an outside project. As soon as I got out of the truck, wham. The stench hits you right in the face. I immediately called the odor number to make a complaint. We did the whole project while breathing in the hazardous air. I had a headache the rest of the day. We are getting tired of this; we should be able to enjoy our property that we pay taxes on. Without breathing hazardous chemicals, while my nieces and nephews play in their own back yard.

I would like to thank you for your time. Please do not hesitate to call and clarify any statements. Especially if win waste tries to contradict any of the facts that I just talked about. They like to repeatedly say they are in compliance with the EPA. They are in compliance with the consent order, not state law.