



**BEFORE THE AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE
THE OHIO SENATE
SENATOR TIM SCHAFFER, CHAIR**

**SENATE BILL 119
TESTIMONY OF TIM LING
THE OHIO MANUFACTURERS' ASSOCIATION**

MAY 30, 2023

Chair Schaffer, Vice Chair Landis, Ranking Member Hicks-Hudson, and members of the Senate Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee, thank you for the opportunity to present opponent testimony on Senate Bill 119 (SB 119).

My name is Tim Ling and I serve as the Corporate Environment Director for Plaskolite, LLC., a global thermoplastic sheet manufacturer based here in Columbus. I stand before you today to testify on behalf of the Ohio Manufacturers' Association of which my company is a longtime member.

As you may know, manufacturing is the largest of the state's 20 major industry sectors. As of Q3 2022, manufacturing contributed more than \$130 billion annually to Ohio's economy, accounting for nearly one-fifth of Ohio's private industry GDP.

We understand that Senate Bill 119 was introduced to address environmental concerns related to local landfill operations and to deter the influx of out-of-state trash to Ohio landfills. The solution to the stated problem is problematic because in addressing an isolated community issue, the bill imposes substantially increased statewide waste disposal fees on Ohio's manufacturers who are not contributing to the problems identified by the local residents in Fostoria and Seneca County.

The bill would increase total state fees on the transfer or disposal of solid waste from \$4.75 a ton to \$8.50 a ton, an increase of nearly 80 percent. Local subdivisions paying solid waste disposal fees will directly pass these increases onto their consumers – including Ohio businesses and municipalities. In addition, the bill permits a county or Solid Waste Management District to levy additional fee increases of up to \$7.50 a ton. An increase of anywhere from \$3.50 to \$6.50 a ton under current law.

The bill also increases fees associated with the transfer or disposal of construction & demolition debris (C&DD) from \$1.70/ton to \$7.50/ton. Consumers would likely realize an approximate 4 to 7 – fold increase for C&DD disposal. Local subdivisions are expected to pass this increase on to their customers. In addition, Ohio manufacturers would be forced to absorb these increases, potentially jeopardizing competitiveness.

According to calculations provided by the National Waste and Recycling Association, the proposed fee increases are projected in total to cost Ohio businesses, municipalities, and individual citizens \$161- \$207 million a year. That's money that comes out of the economy that could otherwise be used to reinvest in Ohio businesses.

We appreciate the concerns expressed by the citizens of Seneca County and Fostoria . Certainly, every Ohioan deserves to live in a community with safe drinking water and adequate environmental enforcement that protects the quality of life for local communities. The OMA has long advocated for resources like the H2Ohio program to support clean-up efforts and provide environmental security to Ohio's families, businesses, and communities.

However, imposing a financial burden on Ohio's manufacturers and the state's business community at large is the wrong approach to addressing an issue that can and should be handled at the local level with assistance from the Ohio EPA.

Chairman Schaffer and members of the Committee, for the reasons I've articulated The OMA urges against passage of SB 119.

That concludes my testimony. I am happy to try to respond to any questions you may have. Thank you.