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**Ohio Chamber of Commerce**  
*Interested Party Testimony - Senate Bill 119*  
*June 6, 2023*

Good afternoon, Chairman Schaffer, Vice Chair Landis, Ranking Member Hicks-Hudson, and Members of the Senate Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee, and thank you for the opportunity to again speak to Senate Bill 119.

When I originally testified in opposition to this bill last Wednesday, May 31<sup>st</sup>, I spoke of the Ohio Chamber's objections to the significant hike in fees proposed for the disposal of solid waste and construction and demolition debris. These increases would disproportionately impact Ohio's businesses, municipalities and citizens and be higher than any surrounding state.

Since that time, the bill's sponsor, Senator Reineke, met with me and two of our Chamber members in the waste industry. It was an opportunity for us to hear directly about his concerns surrounding the Fostoria landfill, and for our members to convey their concerns, speak about best practices, and help brainstorm a number of potential alternative pathways. We know that Senator Reineke has also been diligent in speaking to all affected parties on this bill, including local officials and his constituents.

We were grateful to see Senator Reineke unveil a -4 version of Senate Bill 119, which not only removes all fee increases from the bill but also does not create any new regulations. The Ohio Chamber of Commerce also commends Senator Reineke for taking to heart the statewide economic consequences of the earlier bill and for his willingness to make modifications towards a fairer and more targeted outcome.

In light of these changes, **the Ohio Chamber of Commerce is revising its position on Senate Bill 119 from opposition to that of interested party.** We still have concerns about the creation of a new permissive and variable local fee applicable to construction and demolition debris, but also acknowledge it is not compulsory and drives those conversations to the local level.

Thank you for the opportunity to speak to Senate Bill 119 again and to clarify our position.