

I am sorry i can not be at the hearing on Tuesday afternoon in person, but I wanted you and the committee to know of my strong support for SB156.

As a person who lives next to the Little Miami River and watches it daily, I know the concerns of river property owners have with the state Scenic River law. I believe this bill addresses those concerns and makes it clear that private property rights are protected.

I also support the transfer of the Ohio Scenic Rivers program to ODNR's Natural Areas and Preserves. It is a much better fit for the effort to preserve Ohio's best wild, scenic and recreational waterways. As our climate continues to warm, these places where people can swim, fish, paddle, relax and cool down in shady riparian zones will be even more important. It will also help wildlife find places where it can survive.

These changes should make keeping waters clean and free flowing more desirable.

Thank you for speeding its passage through Committee , the Senate, and the House so it can be signed by the Governor this year.

Sincerely,

Hope Taft

Hope Taft,

2933 Lower Bellbrook Rd.,

Spring Valley, OH 45370,

937-848-2993,

ohiohoper@yahoo.com