

Ohio Senate Energy and Public Utilities Committee
The Honorable Bill Reineke, Chairman
Opponent Testimony House Bill 205
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Chairman Reineke, Vice Chair McColley and Ranking Member Smith, my name is Bryan Shaw and I am the CEO and President of Efficient Pipeline, Efficient Construction and Efficient Services located in Carrollton, Ohio.

By way of background, I graduated from Carrollton High School where I was a state ranked wrestler. It was that sport that taught me the discipline and dedication that has shaped me into the man I am today. I furthered my education at Indiana State University with a bachelor's degree in finance. Upon graduation I started Shaw Publications and owned and operated it until its sale in 2005. Since then, I have been actively involved in the operation of numerous successful businesses and charitable organizations.

Sitting in the heart of the Utica Shale, I saw an opportunity to build a new business and provide a pathway for large multi-national companies to partner with a local Ohio company for oil and gas related services. Today, Efficient Pipeline is one of the largest private employers in Carroll County, as a result of those partnerships we've made.

We feel a deep sense of responsibility to ensure the health and safety of our employees, the communities that we work in, and to the environment. Efficient Pipeline, LLC is Veriforce certified and is operator qualified to work on DOT regulated projects. We have an in-house safety team to provide the training that our employees need to work safely in the field. Efficient Pipeline, LLC subscribes to ISNetworld and PEC. We also work directly with the companies who employ us and actively participate in their extensive safety requirements.

I am writing to you today as a strong opponent to HB205 and to set the record straight that this bill is the start of what will be a chilling precedent in Ohio, which is why all business trade groups oppose it.

Over the past year, and while this bill has been in debate, my company and many other local similar service businesses have been approached by the unions. We've heard multiple accounts that we need to unionize now because the oil and gas industry will soon be mandated to use union only contract labor. Why would we be hearing this if HB205 was not intended to further its scope and have greater impacts to not only the oil and gas industry but any business in the state?

I also take serious issue with the supporters claiming that companies are unable to be safe without being a union shop. That's simply untrue and frankly offensive. It is also incredibly discriminatory to add a "demonstrate proficiency in spoken English" provision to this bill. Ohio is better than this.

In conclusion, while proponents may claim this bill is not a union mandate or that it is limited in its scope, which does not appear to be the proponents' long-term playbook. Make no mistake that HB205 is nothing more than a union mandate that will only make Ohio less competitive, less safe, and will hurt actual local jobs. I urge you to stand with local small businesses and oppose the passage of HB 205 and urge a no vote on this legislation.