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# **SHECKLER EXCAVATING, INC.**

Ohio Senate Energy and Public Utilities Committee  
The Honorable Bill Reineke, Chairman  
Opponent Testimony House Bill 205  
David Sheckler, Sheckler Excavating  
November 14, 2023

Chairman Reineke, Vice Chair McColley and Ranking Member Smith, my name is David Sheckler I am the operations Manager for Sheckler Excavating located in Malvern, Ohio.

Sheckler Excavating Inc. is a second generation family business that was established by my father William Sheckler in 1978 after graduating from High School. The business started out initially doing projects for local farmers and residential work in the nearby towns. Starting in the late 80's Sheckler Excavating began working on larger projects that encompassed utility work, concrete and material handling for housing developments, schools, sports complex's, golf courses, along with the construction of dams and lakes.

In 2011 Sheckler Excavating, Inc. transitioned into the energy sector, where they have focused on well pad construction, roads, compressor pads, bridges, concrete work, flowlines, and completing the infrastructure on live high-pressure wells. In 2017 under my leadership Sheckler Excavating branched out into General Contracting, to provide customers with quality project management from start to finish. Like many generational small businesses in Ohio, we continue to evolve and learn from emerging trends and opportunities around us.

Over the years, we've grown substantially and this year we celebrated our 45<sup>th</sup> year in business. The Utica Shale industry has provided us with the ability to grow and offer more employment opportunities to not only our community but to surrounding communities. Our growth has also allowed us to support our local schools, youth organizations, and non-profits more than we were able to in the past.

HB205 threatens the ability to continue to support local organization and to support local employment. It pushes to use only union companies. HB205 suggest that union companies are the only companies that are safe and properly trained. Which is not the case; we have spent years supplying our employees with training and the resources to master their craft. As a result we should be afforded all the same opportunities without being required to unionize.

HB205 currently only impacts refineries, but it appears that there may be interest to broaden the scope should HB205 pass. That is concerning for us for several reason but the main one being we should not have to unionize in order to continue to work in Ohio. My family has spent 45 years building a business that not only provides employment

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opportunities but a safe place to work, with benefits and opportunity for growth. HB205 seems to be a way to punish and hinder companies that are non-union even though they have the training and skills to complete the project.

It is for this reason; we oppose HB205 and urge a no vote on this legislation.