



Ohio Oil and Gas Association
Proponent Testimony
Senate Resolution 121

Senate Energy and Public Utilities Committee
Chairman Bill Reineke
January 23, 2024

Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, my name is Stephanie Kromer, and I am the Director of Legislative and Regulatory Affairs for the Ohio Oil and Gas Association (OOGA). OOGA is a 77-year-old statewide trade association representing both independent conventional producers and large independent horizontal operators exploring Ohio's shale play. OOGA membership also consists of midstream companies, large-scale transmission line companies, contractors, oilfield service and supply providers, manufacturers, gas utilities and various other professional entities.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer proponent testimony in support of Senate Resolution 121 (SR 121). SR 121 recognizes that natural gas and its production industry are vital to Ohio's economic future. It urges continued investment in natural gas infrastructure to make affordable energy available to every Ohioan.

The Appalachian Basin sits atop one of the world's largest deposits of oil and natural gas thanks to the Marcellus and Utica shale formations. Our resources, technology and people have made Ohio one of the most important energy producing regions in the world. In fact, if you combined Ohio, West Virginia and Pennsylvania together it would be the third largest natural gas-producing region in the world, behind only the rest of the United States and Russia.

In the past decade alone, Ohio's oil and gas industry has contributed over \$100 billion to the state's economy according to JobsOhio's Shale Investment Report. To put that in perspective, the recently announced Intel project in central Ohio, which everyone agrees is a tremendous boon for the state's economy, pulled in an initial \$20 billion investment.

Our members are proud of the contributions Ohio's oil and gas industry makes not just locally but globally. Ohio is well positioned to continue to provide energy for our citizens, businesses, and allies both at home and across the globe. When times get tough Ohio's oil and gas producers not only continue to answer the bell regardless of the circumstances, but they do it in the most environmentally and responsible way possible.

OOGA would like to thank Senator Rulli for his work on this resolution and we urge its passage.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman, I would be happy to try and answer questions from the committee.