

## FINANCE COMMITTEE

To Chairman Senator Dolan  
and the Senate Finance Committee

Greetings and Good Morning ladies and gentlemen, my name is Daniel Donoghue, and I am here on behalf of Northeast Ohio Sportsmen and Women.

I am a trustee in the New Middletown Farmers and Sportsman's club, Vice President of the Mahoning County Duck Hunters Club, Vice President of the Mahoning County Federation of sportsmen's clubs, a Trustee in the Columbiana County Federation of sportsmen's clubs, also involved in the Trumbull County Federation of sportsmen's clubs. Within all 3 of these federations, we represent well over 10,000 sportsmen and women.

As you can probably see, I am well in tune to the sportsmen's voice from Lake Erie to the Ohio River. We have made great strides under Governor DeWine's administration and state legislature in the last 4 years. We have asked to pay more through license increases and were supported very well through the state legislature. Governor DeWine's foresight to purchase the AEP land with help from the legislature will pay dividends for years to come to not only hunting, fishing but all recreational use and hopefully new state park lodges someday.

With all the crazy curricula being introduced into the school systems today, we need to get back to old school basics. I cannot emphasize enough how much the Ohio Wild program funding needs to be restored. The science based curriculum teaches our young about Conservation science, such as caring capacity and harvest limits and potential diseases in animals. It also gives insight into why we need to harvest old growth forests and the need to regenerate new forest habitat for wildlife species to survive and much more.

Also, we need to fully restore original budget requests for the ODNR/H2Ohio. We have made great strides on Lake Erie algae issues, now we are turning inland to help the Ohio River and inland lakes with this budget request restored only makes Ohio waterways greater for drinking water and sporting opportunities.

The state of Ohio has some of the best state parks, wildlife areas and waterways of anywhere in the country. I am here asking for your support to restore Governor DeWine's original administrative biennium budget request for the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Division of Wildlife, The Parks, and the Watercraft and other divisions within the ODNR.

Thank you,  
Daniel Donoghue

