

NOBLE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

ROOM 210 - COURT HOUSE CALDWELL, OHIO 43724-1294 PHONE (740) 732-2969

May 8, 2023

The Ohio Senate Agriculture & Natural Resources Committee In reference to House Bill 33.

The Ohio Senate Agriculture & Natural Resources Committee,

We are writing to you to encourage you to vote for House bill 33 in FY2024-2025 from the state budget to cover additional park expenses and hire additional staff to maintain and operate these improvements which includes additional law enforcement and naturalist for the park.

ODNR has committed funding for capital improvements at Jesse Owens State Park in Morgan County. The project includes construction of 10 cabins, 50 full-service campsites, visitor center and retail shops to begin in late 2023. The economic impact from the State Park from the last few years shows over 5,000 visitors to the park annually with millions of dollars of direct and indirect spending in Morgan and surrounding counties. Our local businesses are benefiting from the state park and these improvements would continue to support local economies and help communities like ours to flourish.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely, Noble County Commissioners Marked Ty moore