

The Honorable Stephanie Kunze

The Ohio Senate

77 S. High Street

Columbus, OH 43215

Re: Sub. HB 23 Transportation Budget

Chairwoman Kunze,

My name is Terry Brill, my family and I live in Scioto Township in Pickaway Co. I have been involved in local government since 1999 first serving on the zoning commission for 10 years, then serving as a Township Trustee for 8 years, and now I serve as Fiscal Officer. I write as an opponent to Sub HB 23, specifically because of the language in Sec. 303.02 regarding aggregate mining.

Scioto township is bordered on the west by the Big Darby Creek and on the east by the Scioto River. I live very close to the Darby. Some years ago, we were faced by the possibility of having a large gravel pit in our township. At the time I was serving on the zoning commission, and there were many concerns brought up about this gravel pit and if it was good for the community. Some of these concerns include the reduction in the quantity and quality of drinking water with the potential threat of contamination to the creek and river that surround Scioto township, reduction in property value, and the wear on roads that heavy machinery causes. The township would have had no benefit from this aggregate mining operation and thankfully through community action and local control we were able to get the operation stopped.

It is my understanding that language in Sub HB 23 would no longer allow for a township to stop aggregate mining operations so should they choose. There may be locations in the state that would benefit from and welcome aggregate mining operations. But, creating a blanket acceptance rule, taking away the right of a township to decide what is best for their people, and their township is wrong. Please allow the trustees to do what they were elected to do and allow the zoning board to do what they were appointed to do, instead of forcing a rubber stamp approval. Give the power to the local people that know what is best for their communities.

Thank You for your consideration in this matter.

Terry Brill

Scioto Township Fiscal Officer and Local Farmer