

Ladies and gentlemen of the committee, thank you for allowing me to submit written testimony regarding SB 155. This bill was written to repeal a part of the Ohio Revised Code that mandates an I-71 interchange that would be in between my city, the City of Brunswick in Medina County and our neighbor to the north, the City of Strongsville, in Cuyahoga County.

Throughout the past year, many of my constituents who live in the northern part of Brunswick have approached me and other officials in the City pleading for our help. Their apprehensions stem from the potential ramifications of the proposed interchange – they dread the specter of the State intervening to claim their homes, disrupting their lives, and dismantling the treasured memories over the years. It is crucial to acknowledge that Brunswick was omitted from all stages of this decision-making process. Our city was neither approached nor consulted. We were deprived of the opportunity to express our perspectives before it was too late. Regrettably, pertinent discussions regarding the alteration of the area's character, relocation of infrastructure such as the jet fuel line, impact on residential properties, and the implications for local planning and zoning were conspicuously absent. The absence of such dialogues underscores a blatant disregard for the citizens of Brunswick.

We ask for your support for SB 155. This legislation represents a crucial step towards rectifying the injustices inflicted upon my City and its residents. We ask this Committee to uphold the principles of fairness and inclusivity, ensuring that all stakeholders are afforded a meaningful voice in matters that profoundly affect their lives and surroundings.

Mayor Ron Falconi
Brunswick, OH