



Ohio Oil and Gas Association
Proponent Testimony
Senate Resolution 155

Senate Transportation Committee
Chairman Stephanie Kunze
April 24, 2024

Chairwoman Kunze and members of the Senate Transportation Committee, thank you for the opportunity to provide proponent testimony on Senate Resolution 155.

My name is Stephanie Kromer, and I am the Director of Legislative & Regulatory Affairs at the Ohio Oil and Gas Association (OOGA). OOGA is a 77-year-old statewide trade association. Our association includes members that represent all aspects of Ohio's oil and gas industry - upstream, midstream, and downstream.

Senate Resolution 155 voices support for consumer choice in the automotive marketplace and against government preferred vehicle technology mandates that will harm Ohio's consumers by prematurely requiring the transition of the automotive fleet from internal combustion powered vehicles to all electric vehicles.

OOGA is concerned that US EPA's recently finalized "Tailpipe Rule" will inhibit the marketplace from identifying the most efficient, lowest cost opportunities to reduce GHG emissions from vehicles and greatly restrict consumer choice. We are concerned that such a prescriptive policy at any level of government is not in the best interest of the consumer or of energy and economic security, which is why we are a proponent of SR 155.

Ohio is home to four oil refineries that provide thousands of jobs and contribute significantly to the state's economy. By banning internal combustion engines, the federal government is signaling that refineries and the greater oil and gas industry are unwelcome, which can lead investors to advocate forgoing capital projects. In some cases, this could lead to premature closures of refineries and prevent new capacity from coming online. Employees are the lifeblood of every business, and by implementing regulations such as the Tailpipe Rule will only put refinery workers on the sidelines.

We are also concerned about the demands that forced electrification of the vehicle fleet will have on the grid. The Institute for Energy Research published a study showing that an average-sized oil refinery produces the energy equivalent of two average-sized nuclear powerplants.¹ Thus, if Ohio were to replace its four refineries, we would need to add the equivalent of eight nuclear powerplants in Ohio to ensure the region can meet the energy needs of Ohio's citizens, business, and industry. Forced electrification of the vehicle fleet will have serious consequences for grid reliability.

Our organization has worked with US EPA on numerous regulatory programs to successfully reduce emissions across the transportation sector. We request this committee and the entire Ohio legislature support the industry, stand with Ohio workers, and oppose these fuel bans.

Chairwoman Kunze and members of the committee, we urge you to support Senate Resolution 155. I would be happy to try and answer any questions.

¹ <https://www.instituteforenergyresearch.org/fossil-fuels/refineries-vs-nukes/>