



FAYETTE SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

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Ohio House of Representatives
Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee
House Bill 65
March 31, 2025

Chairman Creech, Vice-Chair Newman, Ranking Member Miller, and members of the committee, thank you for accepting my written testimony in favor of HB65.

On behalf of the Fayette Soil & Water Conservation District, I appreciate you taking the time to consider HB65 and recognizing the first week of October as Stormwater Awareness Week in Ohio.

With the recent influx of major industrial developments, Fayette County has become appreciative of the importance of stormwater management. Due to the prior rural and agricultural nature of the county, stormwater management was limited to drainage improvements and soil erosion control. Industrial development has introduced entirely new potential negative impacts to the water quantity and quality of the county's headwater streams if not properly managed.

Fayette Soil & Water Conservation District encourages adoption of first week of October as Stormwater Awareness Week to assist in the education of the residents of Fayette County and all of Ohio.

I would like to thank the entire Agriculture Committee for the work that all of you do to improve and promote agriculture and natural resources in Ohio!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Chester Murphy".

Director, Fayette SWCD
Fayette County Floodplain Manager