



## HOUSE COMMUNITY REVITALIZATION COMMITTEE – Opponent Testimony on SB147

### **Chairman Click, Vice Chair Mullins, Ranking Member Brewer, and Members of the Committee:**

Thank you for the opportunity to offer opponent testimony on Senate Bill 147. My name is Donovan O’Neil, and I serve as the State Director for Americans for Prosperity – Ohio. We are a grassroots organization committed to building a bolder, better Buckeye State—and a key part of that vision is keeping government lean and taxes (fees) low.

While S.B. 147 is an improvement over last session’s original S.B. 119, we remain concerned about the long-term impact this bill could have on Ohio taxpayers, builders, and local governance.

### **New C&DD Fees = Higher Costs & Bigger Government**

S.B. 147 authorizes local solid waste districts to levy new fees—up to \$4 per ton—on construction and demolition debris. At a time when Ohio is seeking new energy generation, expanding housing, and revitalizing communities, these fees send the wrong message. These are new fees that Ohio businesses and residents are not currently paying.

According to the fiscal note, the economic impact of these new fees could range from **\$8.4 million to \$33.6 million annually**. This is part of a broader trend: a growing number of local and state fees that expand the size and cost of government.

### **Broad Fee Usage = Local Spending Spree**

By expanding how these fees can be used, S.B. 147 opens the door to every eligible entity—counties, cities, townships, and health boards—grabbing for funds. That’s a recipe for mission creep and unchecked growth in local government spending.

### **County Withdrawal = More Bureaucracy**

Allowing counties to exit joint waste districts may sound like a win for local control, but in reality it creates **more layers of government**. Each withdrawing county must develop its own waste plan, hire staff, and build new compliance structures—duplicating efforts and increasing costs.

We understand the concerns legislators are seeking to address with S.B. 147, but it does so in a way that risks higher costs, expanded bureaucracy, and new barriers to growth across Ohio. **For these reasons, Americans for Prosperity – Ohio urges the committee to oppose this legislation.**

I'm happy to answer any questions.