



**Ohio House Finance Committee  
House Bill 96 Interested Party Testimony  
Tony Seegers, Representing OhioPLANT  
April 8, 2025**

Chairman Stewart, Vice Chairman Dovilla, Ranking Member Sweeney, and members of the House Finance Committee, my name is Tony Seegers and I represent OhioPLANT (Pesticide, Landscape, Agriculture, Nursery, and Turf professionals). OhioPLANT was founded in 1984 and has since grown to include members from all sectors of the nutrient and pesticide application industries, as well as nurseries and golf courses. OhioPLANT serves as the single voice of the pesticide and fertilizer industries in Ohio. Our members vary from trade associations such as the Ohio Green Industry Association (formerly the Ohio Nursery and Landscape Association), the Ohio Pest Management Association, Ohio Agribusiness Association, Ohio Lawncare Association, Ohio Turfgrass Foundation, Ohio Farm Bureau Federation, golf course owners and management associations, as well as companies such as Scotts, TruGreen, Tigersul, and companies providing extermination services.

Like with many other federal regulatory programs, Ohio has delegation authority to implement and enforce the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (“FIFRA”) through the Ohio Department of Agriculture (“ODA”) in Chapter 921 of the Revised Code. To keep its delegated status, Ohio’s laws and rules must be in compliance with federal law and regulations. In 2017, the U.S. EPA adopted amendments to the federal code of regulation for FIFRA’s pesticide certification that required changes in states’ laws to keep delegation. States had until March 4, 2020 to come into compliance, however, due to the pandemic that deadline was extended to 2023. ODA’s compliance plan was approved by U.S. EPA Region 5 in 2023, but the language in Chapter 921 that was stripped from the budget sub bill is a necessary part of this compliance package. We need this language restored for Ohio to retain its delegated status and the ability to administer its pesticide program through ODA’s Division of Plant Health. Therefore, we respectfully request the committee support the amendment restoring the original language amending Chapter 921 in the budget.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Tony Seegers, Esq.