



**February 16, 2026**  
**Ohio House Natural Resources Committee**  
**Chairman Monica Robb Blasdel**  
**Proponent Testimony on Substitute Senate Bill 219**  
**Jimmy Stewart- President Ohio Gas Association**

Chair Robb Blasdel, Vice Chairman Fischer, Ranking Roger, and Members of the House Natural Resources Committee my name is Jimmy Stewart, and I am the President of the Ohio Gas Association (OGA). The OGA is the trade association of Ohio's natural gas transmission and distribution companies. Collectively we deliver safe, clean, inexpensive, and reliable natural gas to approximately 3.6 million Ohio customers including residential, industrial and commercial ones. Please accept this letter as proponent testimony in support of Substitute Senate Bill 219.

Thank you for giving us the opportunity to provide proponent testimony on Senate Bill 219 which updates and improves Ohio's laws governing oil and gas wells. These laws have not had comprehensive changes made since SB 315 was passed in 2012. For context, Ohio only produced 85 billion cubic feet of dry natural gas that year. In 2023 Ohio produced nearly 2.3 trillion cubic feet of dry natural gas! Industry and the technology advanced considerably over that time making Ohio the seventh largest natural gas producing state in the nation that year.

Ohio also happens to be the sixth largest natural gas consuming state in the United States. OGA member distribution and transmission companies safely and reliably deliver this clean and inexpensive energy resource to our

customers of all sizes, 24 hours a day, seven days a week throughout the state. We believe that SB 219 will help Ohio's producers to improve upon their impressive gains and enable even more efficient production in the coming years. Producing safe and affordable energy here inside the state helps to reduce transportation costs to the end users, giving Ohio a competitive advantage. All this translates into wins for our producers, distribution companies, our customers and your constituents.

We ask that you favorably consider SB 219 and urge its adoption. Thank you for your time and attention to this important legislation!