

Dear Natural Resources Committee:

For us in Seneca County, SB 147 boils down to one item: local control. Yes, we support local control for the following reasons:

1. Seneca County is part of the 3 member Solid Waste Management District presently with no legal option to form our own district. 90% (appr) of the received in district trash is deposited in our county. One of the three counties doesn't have a landfill so only 10% of the total in district trash is buried outside of Seneca. As you well know, over 95% of our 90% is out of state trash, primarily from the east coast and delivered via trains.
2. A neighboring county, Wyandot, has their own SWMD, a perfect example of local control.
3. Because of the behemoth of trash in our beautiful county, our Health Department is obligated to spend large amounts of money on oversight. We go to our SWMD and beg for additional funding to do the oversight work and we are denied. Local control would help alleviate this problem.
4. The citizens most impacted by the landfill from water contamination, horrible smells, leachate spills, hundreds of train cars traversing the city and countryside, and blowing trash. It is not the residents of the two counties to our east but Seneca County and primarily, Loudon Township residents. Local Control would ameliorate this situation.
5. We believe that this comes back to the issue of local control. Ohio has always stood by the fact that local governments can handle local problems better than those removed from the problem. Ohio law has shown Ohio to be a Local control state in almost all cases, except for the SWMDs.
6. We ask you very wholeheartedly to allow our County Commissioners to handle this local problem. They are the community and they feel the impact of the landfill, as we do. As a legislator, do you believe that the controls over this landfill belong to the locality in which it is located? Seneca County is requesting the right to control our own Solid Waste Management District.

Thank you

Susan Platt

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