



To: Senate Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee

RE: Senate Bill 147

Date: March 31, 2025

Dear Senate Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee Members:

My name is Donna Cook, serving as the Executive Director of the Western Ohio Home Builders Association. I am writing to you on behalf of our organization to express our opposition to Senate Bill No. 147.

Senate Bill No. 147, if enacted, would impose undue burdens on the Construction & Demolition Industry in Ohio. This bill is an overreaching attempt to sequester a local jurisdictional concern within the State of Ohio and resulting in double taxation on Ohio citizens regarding construction and demolition debris (C&DD). We challenge the legality of this proposed bill which imposes Solid Waste Management District (SWMD) fees on C&DD as taxation without representation. This issue concerning a single area of the state should be handled locally. We presented similar opposition to SB119 – these bills are imposing unsubstantiated additional fees statewide. The health departments already have sufficient, and in some cases surplus, funds available for the regulation of C&DD material.

SB 147's imposition of SWMD fees on C&DD will significantly increase waste disposal costs which will inevitably be passed on to our customers – the hardworking citizens of Ohio who are building or renovating their homes. Not only will this impact their financial burdens, but it will also severely hinder our ability as home builders to control costs and provide attainable housing options for Ohioans. This threatens to exacerbate the already challenging issue of housing affordability, making it increasingly difficult for individuals and families to achieve the dream of homeownership.

In conclusion, we urge you to reconsider Senate Bill 147 and its potential ramifications on our industry and the communities we serve. WE stand ready to engage in constructive dialogue and collaborate on solutions that promote responsible development while safeguarding the interests of all Ohioans.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Donna Cook".

Donna Cook
Executive Director
Western Ohio Home Builders Association