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June 6, 2025

**Ohio Chemistry Technology Council Testimony
Interested Party to House Bill 96**

Chairman Cirino, Vice Chair Chavez, Ranking Member Hicks-Hudson and members of the Senate Finance Committee, my name is Andy Swaim. I am the Vice President of the Ohio Chemistry Technology Council (OCTC). Thank you for the opportunity to provide interested party testimony for House Bill 96.

The Ohio Chemistry Technology Council (OCTC) would like to express our support for language (EPACD19) regarding community air monitoring that was included in the House-passed version of HB 96. This provision was removed in the substitute bill adopted earlier this week. OCTC believes this language is important proactive legislation that would ensure that air monitoring data used by the state in official action is produced in accordance with scientific best practices.

Ohio is fortunate to have a robust air monitoring program with hundreds of monitors sampling on hourly and daily intervals. These monitors are placed near key population centers, busy roadways, and other areas to ensure that they collect comprehensive and representative data on air quality in Ohio. The science behind air pollution monitoring is complex and should always be conducted by qualified professionals in a scientifically accurate way.

The language in the House-passed version of HB 96 would define community air monitoring programs as those run by groups or individuals outside Ohio's existing regulatory monitoring program. The language also clarifies that any official actions, such as permitting or enforcement, must use regulatory, not community air monitoring data as support. These measures ensure that only scientifically accurate data informs air pollution regulation in Ohio. Both permit holders and the general public will benefit from the certainty these common-sense changes provide.

OCTC respectfully requests that the committee support the inclusion of the house-passed language along with a few minor amendments that



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would ensure that this language would not negatively impact any existing programs. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on this measure, and I am happy to answer any questions you may have.

About OCTC

OCTC is the leading advocate for Ohio's chemistry industry. Ohio is the third largest chemical manufacturing state in the country. The chemistry industry in Ohio employs more than 40,000 people, pays an average annual wage of over \$100,000, and contributes more than \$31 billion to the state's economy.