



OHIO WATER WELL ASSOCIATION

To: Ohio House Finance Subcommittee on Agriculture, Development, and Natural Resources

Date: June 4, 2025

RE: Testimony Opposing Ohio Department of Natural Resources Budget Provisions .

The Ohio Water Well Association (OWWA) is a trade association designed to assist, promote, encourage, and support the interests of the water well industry in Ohio. Individuals, corporations, companies or partnerships in the business of well drilling, pump installation, pump and well repairing, as well as suppliers, manufacturers and their representatives, in business related to the well drilling industry, may qualify for full membership in the Association.

The Ohio Water Well Association would like to oppose the bill that decreases funding for Geophysical Mapping that the Ohio Senate Finance Committee just recently released in their version of the state's budget (H.B. 96) for fiscal years 2026 and 2027. According to the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, over 6,000 new wells are drilled each year and approximately 42% of Ohioans, about five million people rely on groundwater for their daily needs.

We are asking to restore the following provision: "Increases the percentage of oil and gas severance taxes credited to the Geological Mapping Fund (Fund 5110), from 10% to 14%, and decrease the percentage to the Oil and Gas Well Fund (Fund 5180), from 90% to 86%". This change will not have any negative impact on the ODNR, Division of Oil and Gas or its programs. In contrast, this will allow the Division of Geological Survey to continue providing geologic support to the Division of Oil and Gas and the oil and gas industry.

Thanks for your time.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ryan Bushong".

Ryan Bushong
OWWA President

6870 Licking Valley Road, Frazeyburg, OH 43822

(740) 828-9200 **admin@ohiowaterwell.org**