

In Support of HR No. 56

Support

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Former Geauga County Commissioner

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Background

- Skip Claypool
 - Not a gas science expert and or specialist
 - Former Geauga County Commissioner and currently a Chesterland Trustee
 - NOACA Board member and member of the Air Quality/Water Quality Subcommittees
 - Interested Citizen who has been very active in questioning e-Check
 - International experience
 - China, Mexico, Brazil, Japan, Singapore, Korea, Europe,
 - Grew up in NE Ohio during the steel industry years

The international experience is relevant because I have experienced significant smog/ozon/pollution in Mexico City, Shanghai, Tokyo, etc. It provides perspective.

3 Points in 10 Minutes

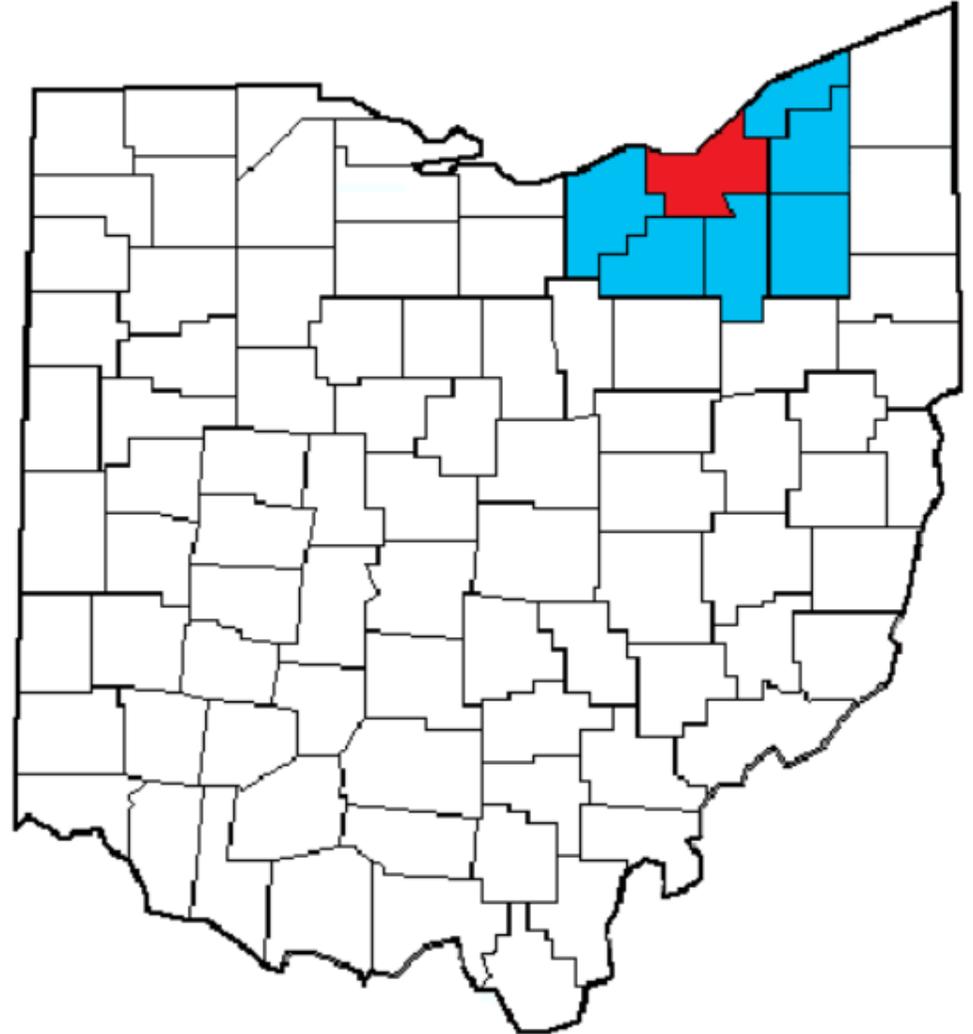
- e-Check does not pass the smell test
- e-Check is not delivering measurable results
- e-Check is not worth the cost and is negatively impacting our citizens

Geauga County is downwind and not responsible for the ozone, but is required to do the testing

The smell test

In all of Ohio only seven counties are required to do e-Check.

- Is this reasonable?
- It seems strange that counties and metropolitan areas with larger populations and more traffic than the Cleveland metro area are in compliance with EPA standards.



The smell test.

Testing monitor in Geauga County is on top of a bus garage, over a parking lot, next to multiple exhausts on the roof, and next to an asphalt roof.

When asked the EPA said there was no issue with the location and that they could not move the sensor because it would require restarting the program.

What do you think?



Ozone is produced from a number of pollutants including exhaust from vehicles.

Doesn't Pass the Smell Test



The Smell Test

“e-Check removes more than 74 tons of harmful vehicle emissions....every day.” Source: EPA – e-Check information page

Does this statement make sense? e-Check removes nothing. While it might impact emissions, even this statement would be hard to measure. Ozone is the target and it is produced only when a mixture of factors is present.

Measurable Results

- NE Ohio was within attainment and then the EPA changed the requirement. Now we are out of attainment by 1 part per billion, because the standard was changed.
- That is equivalent to one person in all of India. One person in three populations of the United States.
- Can we measure 1 part per billion reliably. Is an expensive program like e-Check worth the cost. How much additional improvement can be expected.

Measurable Results

- What is the goal?
- What was the ozone in the time of the dinosaurs, what was it in the 1800's, what should it be today?
- What is the ideal emissions/ozone level?
- Trick questions because there is no right answer.

NE Ohio is measurably better than it was in the 1960's and far far better than any large international city today. That is easy to prove and measure.

Negative impact on our citizens

- The current cost is a regressive tax that impacts the low-income individuals most.
- It requires time, travel, and fuel cost to do e-check thereby contributing to the situation.
- It is an annoyance that I heard about regularly from my constituents when I was a County Commissioner.
- Financially impacts all citizens even though they do not contribute to the perceived ozone problem.

Summary

- e-Check provides no value
- Does not provide a measurable result
- Is a negative impact on our citizens across the state
- If discontinued would produce only positive impacts