

**Testimony of August C and Kelly J Keegan
Seneca County, Ohio
In support of HB-118
Ohio House Public Utilities Committee
March 9, 2021**

Chairman Hoops, Vice Chair Ray, ranking member Smith, members of the committee, we write as proponents of HB-118.

We are concerned citizens living in Northern Ohio, where a project named "Emerson Wind West" is being pushed on the local citizens of the community.

We do not think it is fair that the State Legislators and/or the OPSB, should be able to make decisions for the people who have these turbines in their back yard. It doesn't matter whether the citizens are for or against the wind turbine project, I believe it should be left up to the citizens to vote on something that is going to affect their life, not the politicians'.

Also, the setback distances should be at least as far as the turbine manufacturers' say is safe of fires or during thunderstorms. We have a family we are raising on our property. Our family (children, grandchildren, and ourselves), love to ride our 4-wheelers around our property. This will cause some safety concerns for our family, if the setbacks are only as far as current Ohio allows them. Our personal safety should not be threatened by a state regulated construction project.

Another issue, is that of property value. Our property values will be negatively affected when our area changes from agricultural/residential to industrial in nature.

Wind leases should not be allowed to "go with the property" if the land is sold to someone else. We inherited this nightmare at a land auction. The previous owner, didn't live on this property, ONLY OWNED IT. People don't take into consideration how it may affect the person that is going to live there. It is very sad. Would you want to live where a 600 ft wind turbine was placed in your backyard? And a potential danger to your children or grandchildren? I think not.

Please take this letter into consideration when deciding if we are going to be a democracy or a dictatorship.

Thank you for hearing our voice.

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