



Xenia Township

Board of Trustees – Greene County
8 Brush Row Road – Xenia, OH 45385
(937)372-0859 FAX (937)372-3343
www.xeniatownship.org

TRUSTEES
L. Stephen Combs
Scott W. Miller
Susan Spradlin

FISCAL OFFICER
Jacqueline Robinson

TOWNSHIP
ADMINISTRATOR/
ZONING INSPECTOR
Alan D. Stock

FIRE CHIEF
Greg Beegle

ROAD/PUBLIC
WORKS SUPT.
Jim Pile

PROPONENT TESTIMONY

HB 118
L. Stephen Combs
March 8, 2021

Chairman Hoops, Vice Chair Ray, Ranking Member Smith and members of the Committee. My name is Steve Combs. I am the Chair from Xenia Township Board of Trustees, Greene County. I am here in support of HB 118 and would like to address the issue of local government input.

You have an opportunity before you to insert local input into the approval process.

It isn't about who is for or against wind or solar farms, it is about representation of local concerns and issues. No one at the State or Federal Levels understands these concerns as well as the folks who want a local, certain quality of life protected and desire to prosper where they live.

Allowing for public input and potential referendum allows for this local flavor to be considered. A voice allows for concerns to be heard. No voice heard assumes all are in agreement with the proposal and that no alterations need to be considered.

Public hearing aren't just about personal feelings but also making sure there are issues addressed like conformity to best practices, balanced information resented for safety and health, agreed upon terms that deal with liability, maintenance, visual deterioration in a rural setting, restoration to preexisting conditions, environmentally correct disposal of equipment, etc.

Local people vote for local representatives to advocate for their best interests. The process currently does not allow for this. This is wrong and a betrayal of the people's confidence in allowing their voices to be heard. Rarely does anyone get everything they desire, but it is a travesty to not provide for public input by either residents or their elected officials through Public Hearings during proceeding that affect them directly.

Please support HB 118