

**Testimony of Brian Kensik
Lorain County, Ohio
In support of SB-52
Ohio Senate Energy and Public Utilities Committee
March 9, 2021**

Chairman Peterson, Vice Chair Schuring, ranking member Williams, members of the committee, I write as a proponent of SB-52.

I would like to show my support for this bill being in the committee supporting our efforts for local control and safety of industrial wind and solar projects. This legislation gives a voice to the residents of the community by providing the opportunity for a referendum vote.

I, myself, am not anti-wind but a proponent of safety standards set forth by the manufacturer requiring a standard set back restriction that needs to be followed without encroaching on property lines. It is unfathomable that the Ohio Power Siting Board currently allows wind turbine setbacks shorter than the safety distance directed by the manufacturers for fire and during thunderstorms. Why is public safety being jeopardized in the name of the approximately 10 permanent jobs which come with a wind project? Why would public safety be jeopardized for ANY reason by doing something we are being warned against by the engineers who design and build the machines? In truth there is no justification for such actions beyond the profit driven motives of the developers, most of whom are located outside of Ohio. The risk reward ratio for such a trade-off is horrific and the practice should not be supported by any Ohio politician regardless of whether wind projects are possible in their district or not.

I thank you for your time and consideration of this email.

Respectfully,

Brian Kensik
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