

WITNESS INFORMATION FORM

Please complete the Witness Information Form before testifying:

Date: March 8, 2021

Name: L. Stephen Combs

Are you representing: Yourself Organization

Organization (If Applicable): Xenia Township Board of Trustees, Greene County

Position/Title: Chair

Address: 1200 US 42 South

City: Xenia State: OH Zip: 45382

Best Contact Telephone: 937/477.4084 Email: scombs@xeniatoenship.org

Do you wish to be added to the committee notice email distribution list? Yes No

Business before the committee

Legislation (Bill/Resolution Number): Senate Bill 52

Specific Issue: Local representation

Are you testifying as a: Proponent Opponent Interested Party

Will you have a written statement, visual aids, or other material to distribute? Yes No

(If yes, please send an electronic version of the documents, if possible, to the Chair's office prior to committee. You may also submit hard copies to the Chair's staff prior to committee.)

How much time will your testimony require? Letter submittal only

Please provide a brief statement on your position:

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.

Please be advised that this form and any materials (written or otherwise) submitted or presented to this committee are records that may be requested by the public and may be published online.



Xenia Township

Board of Trustees – Greene County

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PROPONENT TESTIMONY

SB 52

L. Stephen Combs

March 8, 2021

Chairman Peterson, Vice Chair Schuring, Ranking Minority Member Williams 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 SB 52