

***Written Testimony of Dave Greulach
Haviland, OH
SB 52 and HB 118 Opponent Testimony
Senate Energy and Public Utilities Committee
House Public Utilities Committee
March 23, 2021***

Chairmen and members of the committee, my name is Dave Greulach, and I am writing today to express my concern with SB 52 and HB 118.

I'm 79 years old, and I've been farming for 28 years, and now help my son farm roughly 450 acres. As a farmer, I am grateful for the consistent source of income that wind projects bring in, and stand opposed to this legislation because it threatens to cut off these kinds of opportunities for other farmers.

These turbines take up very little acreage on farmland, so we can still use our land how we see fit. It gives my family some peace of mind to know that the turbine income is there to help support us financially when we have a rough year and is also there during the good years to help us grow and save for emergencies. Other farmers put mega dairies and big hog operations on their properties. If no one has a say on whether or not they can start those types of things, why should they have a say on a wind turbine coming in and being built on their neighbor's farmland?

Wind and solar projects help not just individual farmers and families like mine, but the entire community. Projects in Paulding County pay thousands in tax dollars to support our school district and other important things our township needs to pay for. None of these benefits would happen if renewable energy projects could no longer be built in Ohio. I'm concerned about the loss of those benefits, but I am extra concerned about my neighbors being able to dictate what can happen on my property.

I am opposed to SB 52 and HB 118 because I do not think it is right for my decisions with my personal property to be put into my neighbors' hands, nor do I think it is right to deny communities of the benefits they see from renewable energy projects. These decisions should be left to those who can make them best – the private property owner who is weighing the best options for their family.

Thank you for taking the time to read my testimony today, and it is my hope that you will do right by the farmers, property owners, and communities in Ohio who benefit from renewable energy.

Best,
Dave Greulach