

Dear Members of the Ohio General Assembly,

I am writing to you today in opposition to Senate Bill 52 and House Bill 118, bills that would have a detrimental impact on my farm, family, business as well as our community.

My wife and I have been farming for 24 years and have invested a great deal of financial worth, labor and other sacrifices to set this up for future generations in our family. Solar energy on some of our acres would give my wife and I a steady income stream which would give us a more secure life in our older years, making it better for us and future generations while having minimal impact on the ground.

We would be diversifying our income, while also helping the community with increased taxes for roads and schools.

As for the bill's changes to let the township make decisions regarding solar farming, we have both worked two jobs most of our life to be able to purchase our farm, and we feel that as long as we are responsible individuals who make responsible choices, we should have the opportunity to continue to make those choices about our crops, be it corn, soybeans or solar farming.

I have done my due diligence and been working with Open Roads Renewables and our legal counsel for over a year and have worked out a favorable contract for all involved. There will be trees to shelter the view of solar panels, and at the end of the project, the land will be returned to the previous state. This will also help Ohio in being part of the recent increase in green energy, which will also help create local jobs.

Thank you for taking the time to read this letter, and we would welcome you out to our farm for a visit to share more ideas on how this solar project would be beneficial for Licking County and for the entire state of Ohio.

Sincerely,

Joseph Dible
Janice Dible