

PROPONENT TESTIMONY

Sub. SB 52

Michael & Jane Burke (Auglaize County)

May 19, 2021

Chairman McColley, Vice Chair Schuring, Ranking Member Williams and members of the Committee. We are Michael & Jane Burke and I reside in Auglaize County. We support Sub. Senate Bill 52 and would like to share my reasons why we support the passage of this bill.

Pass of this legislation will provide a tool to Township Trustees in order to prevent the following:

1. Taking government listed prime farm land that is protected and changing it to industrial use with the assistance of money.
2. Concerns for existing tile drainage structures and additional runoff.
3. Local government or landowners have no rights with proposed industrial utility project.
4. Economic losses to Agri business
5. Neighbor and community relations
6. Long term effects of turning Industrial energy sites back to agriculture use are unknown
7. Availability of fund for decommissioning and reclamation of farmland. Environmental impact and hazardous materials.
8. Eminent domain.
9. Elderly landowners knowledge of industrial energy contract before signing a lease.