

PROPONENT TESTIMONY

Sub. SB 52

Sherrie Fisher (Auglaize County)

May 19, 2021

Chairman McColley, Vice Chair Schuring, Ranking Member Williams and members of the Committee. My name is Sherrie Fisher and I reside in Auglaize County. I support Sub. Senate Bill 52 and would like to share my reasons why I support the passage of this bill.

We are very concerned about the proposed wind and solar projects in Auglaize and surrounding counties. We believe land and home owners should have rights to do things with their property. However when what they do on or with their property effects those around them I feel we should have a say as a neighbor. Returning the ability for Townships to support, oppose or a combination thereof that this legislation contains is a fair compromise for both Township residents and wind/solar developers. I strongly encourage you to support and pass this legislation.

Flicker and noise from wind turbines decrease in property value or reflection and flooding from solar panels is not something to take lightly. Bald eagles, birds in general and wildlife will all be effected. Please help us have a say and save the natural habitats.

Recently our 21 year old son said he would like to by a property of his own close to our farm. He only sees the farmland and area around us like it is. I have been to Hardin County and Van Wert and seen firsthand the visual destruction of our beautiful Ohio landscape. No longer can you take a drive though the country and look at the beautiful farms, barns and fields of cows. Now you see Wind turbines dotting the landscape. We have told our son that any property he buys he should consider if it will be surrounded by wind turbines or solar panels. He talked about buying a starter home now and later selling and buying something different should he marry. The proposed wind and solar project would affect his resale value or depending where proposed wind turbines and solar panels would be placed possibility to resell at all! I find this to be very disheartening to see a property you would like to purchase and have to consider what will happen to the surrounding property first because that will affect you possibly forever. I am sure the owners of the properties trying to sell have many concerns also.

If wind and solar are the answer to the worlds energy problems why do so many like us protest it? So many stories of the adverse effects of the wind turbines. Would you want any wind turbines or solar fields anywhere near your home personally? Your parent's home? Your kid's home? Would you want your grand kids to hear the humming and see the flicker from the turbine blades? Industry has a place. In an industrial park. I suggest factories should build solar panels on their roofs and over their parking lots. Even shopping malls could install solar panels on roofs and over parking lots. Install wind turbines miles from homes not hundreds of feet. Please look at this from the view of a home owner. We work hard for what we have. How many times do you go on vacation and think what a view. How beautiful to see rolling hills, fields and nature. My perfect view does not include wind turbines and solar panels. Help us have a say in major proposed wind and solar projects. We have one planet to share. There will be no more farm ground. We need to protect it as a food source for us all. The world needs farmers to survive. Wind and Solar so called farms will not feed us!

We have heard that we have neighbors who are for leasing their ground to wind turbines and or solar panels. This will change our neighborhood dynamic. We will no longer be friends. We will not smile and stop and exchange hellos with these people. Will they lease the ground near their home farms? NO. They don't want to look at it or hear it. So why should they be allowed to make others? Please help us have a say. Please support SB 52. Help us have a say about our "view and our farms". Productive farm ground is not the place for industrial anything.

There is a time and place for everything. Now is the time to return the right of Townships to better control the future land use for its residents. Now is the time to pass Sub. SB52!

I appreciate your time and help us to continue to say "Oh Beautiful for Spacious Skies"!

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