

WRITTEN TESTIMONY BEFORE THE
SENATE ENERGY & PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMITTEE
INTERESTED PARTY TESTIMONY ON S.B. 52

Chairman McColley, Vice Chair Schuring, Ranking Member Williams, and members of the Senate Energy & Public Utilities Committee, thank you for the opportunity to provide written remarks on S.B. 52. On behalf of the Ohio Business Roundtable, I am testifying as an interested party to this legislation.

As you know, over the course of the past few months, the Ohio Business Roundtable has weighed in on the merits of S.B. 52. Throughout the process, the Chairman and bill sponsors have been transparent and open in working with the business community to try to come to an agreement on language that would satisfy our main concerns. OBRT members continue to believe that any legislation should be prospective in nature, so that projects that have already sunk significant capital in Ohio don't have the rug pulled out from under them with a new set of rules. In addition, our members continue to oppose the idea of a local referendum on energy infrastructure projects, due to the negative consequences it could yield for Ohio's reputation as a business-friendly state.

While OBRT still believes this bill is far from perfect, there is no doubt that the latest version of the bill is a significant improvement from previous versions. In addition, we have been very impressed and grateful for the sponsors' willingness to work in good faith to try to ease some of our member's top concerns. As the legislative process continues, OBRT will continue to work with members of the Ohio Senate and Ohio House towards a solution that all parties can live with.

Chairman McColley and members of the committee, thank you again for the opportunity to share our perspective on this important matter.

Sincerely,

Michael McLean
Vice President of Policy
Ohio Business Roundtable