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Senate Financial Institutions and Technology Committee

HB 2 Opponent Testimony

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Chairman Wilson, Vice-Chairman Hottinger, Ranking member Maharath and members of the Financial and Technology Committee, my name is Kathy Dirr. I am the founder of "Ohio 4 Safe Tech" and the Ohio Liaison for the national organization "We are the Evidence," which is an advocacy group for those suffering from electromagnetic radiation sickness and injury.

We are not against technology-- but we ARE advocates for SAFE technology.

We strongly oppose HB2, as it allows for scientifically-proven and biologically-harmful radiation exposure levels via small cells to be installed in rural Ohio. This bill will allow small cells to be placed in **the front yards of rural residents and, just as with HB478, passed in April of 2018, will not allow families to object to the 24/7 harmful radiation exposure – they will be subjected, without their knowledge or consent, to microwave radiation that will harm their health, as well as the health of their children.**

HB2 does not require that this faster speed technology planned for rural Ohio use safe Fiber- to- the- Premises or copper-wire connectivity. It permits the small cells and micro-wireless infrastructure seen below:



***West Chester – Butler County
Pulsing Microwave Radiation
exceeds 8,000 microwatts/sq meter***



***Mason Middle School – Warren County
Pulsing Microwave Radiation exceeds
29,900 microwatts/sq meter***

The levels of microwave radiation emitted by these devices exceeds safety limits per the safety guidelines of the Bio-initiative Report, are dangerously high, and jeopardize human health, particularly for children, who are the most vulnerable. Scientific peer-reviewed research demonstrates that microwave radiation in amounts as low as 2,000 microwatts per square meter causes harmful biological effects, including but not limited to: fatigue, depression, headaches, sleep disorders, concentration difficulties, cardiovascular problems, DNA damage, cancer, and in particular a two-fold increase in childhood leukemia, as well as a decreased survival rate for childhood leukemia.

The allowable radiation levels set by the FCC are unsafe. They have represented the interests of the industry and not the public and are considered a “Captured Agency”. Please see: [Captured Agency: How the Federal Communications Commission is Dominated by the Industries it Presumably Regulates](#)

We are the Evidence, Environmental Health Trust (EHT) and the Children’s Health Defense (CHD) have filed a landmark lawsuit against the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). They charge that the outdated “Safety Standards,” that are more than two decades old and erroneously based on thermal radiation effects, are unsafe and must be revised. Over 11,000 pages of evidence in support of their claims have been filed.

One groundbreaking study by the National Institutes of Health, Toxicology Program (NIH/ NTP) , the largest of its kind, found that non-ionizing radiation causes three rare cancers, breaks the blood-brain barrier, and damages our DNA. These results were again confirmed by the Italian Ramazzini study.

A Navy Medical Research Institute (NMRI) Research Report exposes non-ionizing radiation is responsible for organ damage, altered fetal development, infertility, harms the nervous system, endocrine and digestive system, affects the heart, brain and even damages eyes. (This is not a complete list.)

The dangers of microwave radiation are further vividly demonstrated by the fact that telecommunication companies are completely unable to get insurance; for example, Lloyds of London, refuses to insure against “non-ionizing radiation”. The telecom industry warns shareholders it is facing serious litigation regarding its “products”. See attached: What the Telecom Industry Doesn’t Tell You...But Does Tell Its Investors.

There are many other considerations regarding HB2:

- Property values go down 20% when a small cell appears in the front yard or near a homeowner.
- This bill is being sold as the CoronaVirus solution: We must pass this bill and it must pass as an emergency.
- We are told that “at-home learning” requires this bill be passed; this is false-- children have used textbooks for more than 200 years to learn, and in fact studies show that using tech for long periods is harmful to kids and rewires their brains. [Excessive use of tech has been proven to cause mental health and cognitive learning problems, including memory and attention disorders.](#) The American Academy of Pediatrics, the largest US medical association of pediatricians and pediatric specialists, recommends that the US government *tighten* wireless exposure limits and that the public [reduce children's exposure](#) to devices that emit wireless radiation. **If technology must be used, however, this bill should require it be done safely using wired connections.**
- Telemedicine can’t justify HB2. Tele-med is not an acceptable substitute for in-person medicine: vitals cannot be taken, care is substandard, and malpractice insurance doesn’t cover tele-med, since it is considered an unsafe way to receive care. This money would be better used for REAL access to REAL doctors with clinics established in rural poverty- stricken Ohio areas.
- The idea that rural businesses need this bill to compete is bogus. Faster **wired** internet services will serve the same purpose, improving productivity, lowering healthcare costs, and increasing the competitive edge of businesses. Again, research shows that microwave radiation exposure from Wi-Fi and small cells causes migraine

headaches, insomnia, memory problems, attention deficit and cognitive disorders, depression, and anxiety. Since the workforce is the most important asset of any business, preventing these health issues has a significant impact on employee productivity and any competitive edge:

- OSHA requires safe workplaces, something that cannot be guaranteed with wireless infrastructure. What will be the cost to businesses when they are held liable for serious health consequences from dangerous workplace exposure to microwave radiation? The small cells providing faster speeds by using 5G mmW technology operate without safety standards; there are no safety studies proving 5G is safe. In fact, it is an untested application of a KNOWN carcinogen. Furthermore, this 5G mmW technology is being installed indoors, increasing harmful exposure levels. Military studies confirm there is biological harm from exposure to mmW radiation.
- ADA requires that employers protect those who suffer from Microwave Radiation Sickness. What is the cost to shield an employee's office to make it safe? Businesses may well be held liable for full healthcare costs from illness and injury of employees working on site. If employees work from home and are exposed to Wi-Fi as well as small cells outside or near their home, those healthcare costs are absorbed by the employer as most offer healthcare coverage as a workplace benefit. Healthcare is the largest expenditure most businesses have today and, as Dr. Sharon Goldberg pointed out when testifying to the Michigan General Assembly, there are numerous cases of costly medical issues resulting from this technology.

While faster technology may be desired, it should not come at the expense of the health of Ohioans. This bill should be amended to require safe wired technology and not permit "last mile" wireless infrastructure.

Thank you for the opportunity to speak regarding our objections to this bill. I would be pleased and honored to answer any questions you have for me today.

Attachments:

- IEEE Electronic Radiation Due to Cellular, Wi-Fi and Bluetooth Technologies: How Safe Are We?
- Wi-Fi in Schools: Experimenting with the Next Generation (Epoch Times)
- What the Telecom Industry Doesn't Tell You...But Does Tell It's Investors
- Oxidative Mechanisms of Biological Activity of Low Intensity Radiofrequency Radiation – 100 studies
- Dr. M. Herbert, PhD, MD – Harvard Medical School – On Wireless Harm | Children
- NTP/NIH Peer Reviewed Summary page

Important links to Government Reports and Studies Proving Wireless Radiation Health Effects

**\$25 Million US National Toxicology Program Study Proving Wireless
Radiation Can Cause Cancer
Non-Thermally Below Our Current FCC Safety Guidelines**

Peer Review Expert Panel of Pathologists Peer Review: [Click Here](#) for (PDF)
NTP Study Report 1 [Click Here](#) for (PDF) | NTP Study Report 2 [Click Here](#) for (PDF)

[Ramazzini Institute Study replicates findings of NTP study with Heart and Brain cancer being caused by wireless radiation non-thermally below current FCC safety guidelines and at exposure levels 60-1000 lower than in NTP](#)

[Click Here](#) (Study)

US Naval Medical Research Institute: BIBLIOGRAPHY OF REPORTED BIOLOGICAL PHENOMENA ('EFFECTS') AND CLINICAL MANIFESTATIONS ATTRIBUTED TO MICROWAVE AND RADIO-FREQUENCY RADIATION

[Click Here](#) for Navy Report 1 (122 symptoms of Microwave Sickness identified & 2300 studies cited)
[Click Here](#) for Naval Report 2 (Another 3700 studies identified showing biological effects from EMF)

EPA REPORT:

[ELECTRIC AND MAGNETIC FIELDS: AN EPA PERSPECTIVE ON RESEARCH NEEDS AND PRIORITIES FOR IMPROVING HEALTH RISK ASSESSMENT](#)

[Click Here](#) For EPA Report

Air Force Materiel Command:

[RADIOFREQUENCY/ MICROWAVE RADIATION BIOLOGICAL EFFECTS AND SAFETY STANDARDS: A REVIEW](#)

[Click Here](#) to Download Full Air Force Review

NASA Report:

**ELECTROMAGNETIC FIELD INTERACTIONS WITH THE HUMAN
BODY:
OBSERVED EFFECTS AND THEORIES**

[Click Here](#) For NASA Report

U.S. Department of The Interior:

**LETTER TO NATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND
INFORMATION ADMINISTRATION,
US DEPT OF COMMERCE**

(citing harm and death to birds near cell towers due to cell tower wireless RF radiation)

[Click Here](#) for Department of The Interior Letter

To Learn More Please Visit

- [Environmental Health Trust](#)
- [Physicians for Safe Technology](#)
- [Americans for Responsible Tech](#)

- [Bioinitiative Report](#)
- [Microwave News](#)
- [EMF Portal](#)

- [International Moratorium on 5G](#)
- [US Doctors call for Moratorium on 5G](#)

- EHT- Scientific Research Summaries

