



OHIO TOWNSHIP ASSOCIATION

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December 13, 2018

The Honorable Marlene Anielski, Chair
House State & Local Government Committee
Ohio House of Representatives
77 S. High Street
Columbus, OH 43215

Re: Proponent Testimony
HB 766 Junk Watercraft

Dear Chair Anielski:

On behalf of the Ohio Township Association (OTA), I am writing in support of House Bill 766, which would provide for a definition of the term “junk watercraft vessel or outboard motor.”

Pursuant to current law, townships have the permissive authority to deal with junk motor vehicles in their jurisdiction and there is a clear definition of what would be considered a junk motor vehicle. Unfortunately, there is not same authority relating to junk watercraft. For those townships that are geographically along or near rivers or lakes, junk watercraft is just as prevalent as junk motor vehicles. The language in HB 766 would clearly define a junk watercraft vessel or outboard motor as any vessel that fits **all** of these requirements:

1. Three years old or older;
2. It is apparently inoperable; and
3. It has a fair market value or \$1,500 or less.

A township would have to follow all applicable notification processes and open meeting laws when seeking to remove a junk watercraft or outboard motor.

Madam Chair and members of the Committee, the OTA urges your support of HB 766 and the committee’s favorable referral of this legislation to the full House for passage. Should you have any questions or concerns regarding this legislation or our position on the matter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Matthew J. DeTemple
Executive Director

MJD:hf