



Ohio's "6119" Regional Water & Sewer Districts

May 15, 2018

Chairman Bacon
Ranking Member Thomas
Members of the Senate Judiciary Committee

Re: HB 276

Dear Chairman Bacon, Ranking Member Thomas and Members of Senate Judiciary Committee:

Thank you for allowing me to provide written comments on behalf of the Coalition of Ohio Regional Districts (CORD) in support of HB 276, which will help protect utility workers from being threatened while the job.

CORD is a non-profit association established to assist, protect and advance the interests of Ohio's Regional Water and Sewer Districts, also known as "6119 Districts" since they are established under Chapter 6119 of the Ohio Revised Code. 6119 Districts provide potable water, sanitary sewer and storm water services to over 1 million customers in the State of Ohio.

Employees of 6119 Districts are often required to perform unpleasant services, such as turning off services, denying payments, and handling customer complaints. While these tasks are typically handled without incident, there are instances where tempers flare. In some cases, employees of our members are directly threatened by disgruntled customers.

Utility workers often provide services that are critical to the health and safety of the community. Ohio's legislative leaders should do everything they can to ensure they are protected.

On behalf of the members of CORD, I would like to thank Representatives Rezabek and Greenspan for working with us on developing this legislation and encourage you to contact me with any questions.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "John Albers", is written over a blue wavy line.

John Albers
Coalition of Ohio Regional Districts
Executive Committee Member