

**Ohio House Energy and Natural Resources Committee**  
**House Bill 401**  
**Proponent Testimony**  
**November 19, 2019**

Chairman Vitale, Vice Chairman Kick, Ranking Member Denson and Members of the Committee, please support House Bill 401 (Reineke Referendum) and give Ohio communities the opportunity to vote on industrial wind projects.

Every community in Ohio is different. Only the members of a community know what is best for their community. Those same members are the only ones who should decide the future of their community. Industrial wind projects dramatically change a community in many ways and come with their own list of issues. Once again, only the members of a community can appropriately weigh the risks and benefits of each of those issues.

The current siting process of wind projects in Ohio only gives a voice to the wind company and those who financially benefit. It is frustrating that a number of leaseholders are absentee landowners. These absentee landowners may own property in the community, but they live in another township, county, or sometimes even another state! These absentee landowners do not live or work in the community, have children in the local schools, or conduct business in the local community. Why are these absentee landowners and out of state companies allowed to force their agenda on our communities, yet as members of these communities we do not have a voice in the process?

Please allow for all Ohioans to have a say what occurs in their communities!

Sincerely,

*Tina Frederick*

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