

#14

November 14, 2019

RE: HB 401; SB 234

Regarding the proposed bills listed above, we would like to give our thoughts on why local control is important to us.

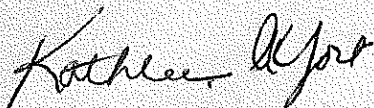
Our township trustees are the first level of government for those of us who live in the country, outside of city or village limits. These are people who will be impacted by and live with the decisions that are made here. Those decisions are called zoning laws, and they are put in place when a majority of the citizens vote to accept them. But first there is debate, and arguments are made both for and against any proposed zoning law. We all live with the decisions that are made. The trustees are directly accountable to us, their neighbors.

And that is exactly why I think we need the above bills to be passed. We, in this community, know what is best for us. We have decided through our township zoning laws, what we are willing to live with, and it should be no different for industrial wind turbines. As it stands currently, we have NO voice in whether we want them here or not. The OPSB can approve a project or projects, even if it violates our current zoning regulations. The IWTs can negatively impact our property values, the ability to enjoy our property (sights and sounds), the wildlife we get to live amongst, and the pastoral views that drew many of us to live in the country even when we are not engaged in farming. Then, to add insult to injury, we must hire outside legal counsel to fight to keep what we have already attained.

Local control through the above bills is desperately needed and we urge you to vote yes.

Respectfully,


Michael E Yost


Kathleen A Yost