

Chairman Hillyer, Vice Chair Grendell, Ranking Member Galonski, and members of the Civil Justice Committee,

Thank you for allowing me to testify today. My name is Kinsey Kandray. I am with River Valley Organizing, a community action nonprofit with an office in East Liverpool, Ohio. I am opposed to House Bill 613 because the community members want the court to stay open. With my testimony, I present to you the digital signatures of 190 people who want the court to remain open. There seems to be a disconnect between what the people want and what our elected officials want. Please read the passionate pleas the signers make to keep their court. The people deserve to have a say in how their court operates.

I'd also like to speak on the issue of transportation, which many community members noted in their petition signing. In the proponent hearing, Representative White mentioned that she guessed that transportation can be a barrier in a county like Columbiana County. Proponents of the bill say that it's fair if everyone's driving time to court is about equal. What this leaves out is people's individual access to transportation. According to the most recent census, 14.7% of households in East Liverpool do not have access to a vehicle. This is over twice as high as the county average, which is 7% of households.

The other barriers to transportation are time and money. If you'd like a ride with our public transportation service, it needs to be scheduled a week and a half in advance. Someone may not know their work schedule that far out. Being able to walk to the court makes it much more accessible. As for money, \$3.30 will buy you a one-way ticket from East Liverpool to Lisbon. If the court is abolished, that means a person would need to spend \$6.60 every time they needed to go to court. Now, if someone is in drug court, they check in with their probation officer three times a week. That could mean spending almost \$20 a week in transportation fees. Can you imagine trying to find funds to cover those costs on a tight budget?

In closing, I want to reiterate that the community does not want the court to be abolished. If it were to be abolished, it would put an undue burden on the people.

I ask you to consider my testimony and vote NO on this bill. Thank you again for the opportunity to testify, I welcome any questions.

Vehicles Available per Household in East Liverpool, OH

United States Census Bureau

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American Community Survey

DP04 | SELECTED HOUSING CHARACTERISTICS

2020: ACS 5-Year Estimates Data Profiles

Notes 1 Geo Years 1 Topic Surveys Codes 123 Hide Transpose **Margin of Error** Restore Excel CSV ZIP Print Map

East Liverpool city, Ohio

Label	Estimate	Margin of Error	Percent	Percent Margin of Error
✓ VEHICLES AVAILABLE				
✓ Occupied housing units	4,330	±256	4,330	(X)
No vehicles available	637	±155	14.7%	±3.4
1 vehicle available	1,917	±252	44.3%	±5.3
2 vehicles available	1,149	±157	26.5%	±4.1
3 or more vehicles available	627	±269	14.5%	±5.9

Vehicles Available per Household in Columbiana County, OH

Columbiana County, Ohio

Occupied Housing Units
with No Vehicles Available

7.0 percent

Source: Latest ACS 5-Year Estimates
Data Profiles/Housing
Characteristics