



April 23, 2021

The Honorable Jason Stephens
Chairman
House Energy and Natural Resources Committee
77 S. High St.
Columbus, OH 43215

Dear Chairman Stephens:

On behalf of Coles Energy and as a proud member of the Ohio Propane Gas Association (OPGA), we write in support of House Bill 201.

Coles Energy is a locally owned and operated business in Milan, Ohio. We are Ohio's premier provider of fuels, lubricants, and additives. Delivery and service are the key components of our business philosophy. We supply fuel to homeowners, agricultural, and manufacturing services. The fuels we offer to our customers include propane, premium off-road gasoline, premium on-road gasoline, regular gasoline, on-road and off-road diesel, kerosene, and others.

Our customers have varied needs when it comes to fuel and expect a diverse array options available to them. Unfortunately, there has been an alarming increase of bureaucracies seeking to limit consumer choice by banning the use of certain fuels. Such prohibitions would certainly hurt our business and most importantly hurt our customers. Coles Energy feels Ohio should support a level playing field that fosters competition, supports industry jobs, and keeps prices low. HB 201 supports those goals by helping to ensure consumer choice through competitiveness and a free market approach.

Additionally, we greatly appreciate the amendment recently adopted by the committee, which adds propane as a fuel source which cannot be banned or limited by a municipality. This clarification is important as propane is a byproduct of natural gas and defined separately in Ohio revised code.

In closing, we greatly appreciate the efforts of the sponsors to bring this important legislation forward. Thank you for your consideration and support of energy choices.

Sincerely,

Frank Edwards
Director of Operations