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House Bill 430 Sponsor Testimony

Chairman Stephens, Vice-Chair Stewart, Ranking Member Weinstein and members of the Ohio House Energy and Natural Resources Committee, thank you for allowing me to provide testimony for House Bill 430. This advanced notification legislation seeks to create a safety dialogue between property developers/owners and hazardous liquids or interstate gas pipeline operators when new land use or property development is planned near a transmission pipeline.

This bill is pro-business, pro-safety, and pro-development and will help to improve Ohio's infrastructure and economy. When a new development of any kind occurs near an interstate transmission pipeline, federal law can require additional modifications be made to the pipeline for the safety of those around it. These additions can become extremely costly for the pipeline and/or developer.

In 2010, 130 stakeholders representing pipelines and community planners from across the United States joined several Federal Government Agencies (including the U.S. Department of Transportation, the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration, and the Office of Pipeline Safety) to come up with best practices related to community land use planning in and around pipelines. The goals in this proposed legislation are based in large part upon the codifying of these best practices.

This legislation aims to do the following:

- Ensure communication between developers, pipeline operators, local officials, and other public authorities.
- Direct the developer and pipeline operator to provide appropriate information to the public authority within 660 feet of the pipeline center point.
- Require the public authority to notify all parties of a potential development within the 660 feet radius of a hazardous waste or interstate gas pipeline.

Advanced Notification Legislation will create a better path for correspondence and smart development amongst local stakeholders and any entity that wants to better the community.

Thank you for your time and I would be happy to answer any questions.