



November 28, 2022

Ways and Means Committee
The Ohio House of Representatives, 134th General Assembly
Columbus, Ohio

Re: Substitute Senate Bill No.112

Chair Merrin, Vice Chair Riedel, and Ranking Member Sobecki:

On behalf of COCIC, serving as the Franklin County Land Bank, located in Columbus Ohio, I write to ask for your support of Substitute Senate Bill No. 112.

Thanks to your previous support, Ohio Land Banks are some of the most productive entities in the country with regards to paving the way for safer neighborhoods, community based economic development and affordable housing. These activities are paramount in improving the lives of folks who live in our neighborhoods and communities.

We just completed our ten-year impact analysis that illustrated among other things that COCIC:

- Funded or financed 350 affordable homes
- Facilitated the preservation or construction of 1,658 market rate homes
- Reclaimed 205 acres of commercial land that was once unusable
- By demolishing and reusing once blighted vacant & abandoned properties increased property valuations in Franklin County by \$320 million

While we celebrate these accomplishments...we know that there is much more to do. The proposed changes to the land bank laws will allow Ohio land banks to adapt to the changing environment and continue to provide needed services to our communities.

Thank you for your consideration of this critically important legislation and your leadership in making Ohio better!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Curtiss L. Williams, Sr.', is written over a light blue circular watermark.

Curtiss L. Williams, Sr.
President/CEO