

April 5, 2022

The Honorable Rob McColley Chairman Senate Energy and Public Utilities Committee 1 Capitol Square Senate Building, 2nd Fl. North Columbus, OH 43215

RE: House Bill 430 Written Proponent Testimony

Dear Chairman McColley:

The Ohio Oil and Gas Association (OOGA) is a statewide trade association representing both independent conventional producers and large independent horizontal operators exploring Ohio's shale play. OOGA membership also consists of midstream companies, large-scale transmission line companies, contractors, oilfield service and supply providers, manufacturers, gas utilities and various other professional entities.

Our industry employs more than 208,000 Ohioans that provide affordable, abundant energy for all of our state's citizens. Our operators are committed to doing the job in a manner that is safe for both their fellow industry workers and the people they serve. House Bill 430 achieves both goals.

House Bill 430 will ensure open communication between developers and pipeline operators prior to the construction of a new development. This dialogue will help mitigate any potential concerns or issues by making developers aware of a pipeline's existence and its exact location. This information will help developers factor the location of these facilities into their design projects, as well as give operators adequate time to make any needed adjustments.

This legislation will help ensure the approximately 10,000 miles of natural gas transmission pipelines in the state continue to operate safely. Establishing and maintaining open communication between developers and operators, through the provisions outlined in House Bill 430, will grant greater protections from third-party accidents, such as during the excavation or construction stages of development.

OOGA urges swift committee passage of the bill. You can contact me with any questions at rob@ooga.org.

Sincerely,

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Rob Brundrett President