

Amy Mendoza

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April 30, 2024

RE: S.B. No. 119

Dear Honorable Chairman Kick, Vice Chair Lear, Ranking Member Rogers, and members of the House Energy and Natural Resources Committee,

My name is Amy Mendoza, I am a City Councilperson for Fostoria. I previously submitted a written statement with attached documentation for consideration at the October 11th, 2023 hearing on the above referenced matter. However, I just wanted to quickly remind you today that my goal in all of this is simple. It is simply to protect the environment and public health of my constituents. As representatives, we are meant to advocate in their best interests. With the landfill's history of noncompliance and all of the future risks they pose to our community, today, I am simply asking that you do justice to your job responsibilities.

The Ohio EPA claims to be a trusted leader and environmental steward yet, they continue to ignore the very things they are meant to protect us from. Therefore, we turn our trust to you instead. I was appointed to be a trusted leader by representing my constituents, so I am not addressing the Committee today as one person; I am addressing you today as the voice of the town I serve. I am advocating on behalf of the 13,000 residents who are anxiously relying on your help to protect their quality of life by enacting this bill. Thank you.

Cordially,

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"Our communities do not belong to us. We belong to them." – George Bernard Shaw