Dear Chairman Stein, Vice Chair Robb Blasdel, Ranking Member Weinstein and Members of the House Public Utilities Committee,

I write to you in my capacity as a business leader, landowner, and steward of seven farms across our great state.

My family has played an important role in Ohio's agricultural and business landscapes, witnessing the transformations of our communities and contributing to the enduring values that define Ohio as a place of opportunity and tradition.

As the President of Haas Door, I understand the importance of balance - balancing innovation and tradition, progress and preservation. Our company, founded on the principles of quality and craftsmanship, reflects this balance as we produce doors that protect homes and businesses across Ohio and beyond.

I am writing today to express my enthusiastic support for House Bill 197 (HB197). This bill represents a significant opportunity for Ohio to embrace renewable energy, foster economic growth, and ensure a resilient future for our state.

In my dual capacity as a business leader and a landowner, I recognize the potential for solar energy projects, as outlined in HB197, to not only reduce our environmental footprint but also to create jobs and enhance the prosperity of our communities. It aligns with my commitment to responsible business practices and the resilient stewardship of Ohio's land.

I have been working closely with Nicholas Minekime, founder Sunrise Mountain Partners, LLC. They are a solar developer that, with the financial backing of CleanCapital, has personal ties to Ohio, and a vested interest in our state's economic wellbeing and fortitude. Nicholas is a fellow Buckeye, graduate of Dublin Coffman High School, and Dublin native. We have entered a long term lease with the intention of building one or more community sun farms on my property. Together, we see the potential for solar energy projects, as outlined in HB197, to contribute to the resilience of our state's energy infrastructure. It is a partnership that underscores our shared commitment to a resilient and sustainable future for Ohio.

I wholeheartedly endorse House Bill 197 and its potential to shape a more prosperous and resilient future for our beloved state, while contributing to the preservation of our legacy as responsible landowners. Please do not hesitate to reach out to me if you have any questions or require additional information.

Thank you for your dedication to the well-being of Ohio and its citizens. Together, I am confident that we can pave the way for a brighter and more resilient future.

Sincerely,

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Jeffrey Nofziger