

Good afternoon Chair Schaffer, Vice Chair Landis, Ranking Member Hicks-Hudson and the members of the Senate Agricultural and Natural Resources Committee. My name is Daniel Straub and I reside in Seneca County. I am here to give proponent testimony for Senate Bill 119 as a concerned citizen, along with other Ohioans, about the massive toxic trash being railed from other states into our county and the toxins seeping into our water, from ditches, creeks to Lake Erie and all the other Great Lakes.

I have submitted photos taken of Sunny Farms Landfill. Some are pictures of the ditches and some of the train cars that are parked on these tracks for weeks. These photos were taken after a rain storm in which the train cars are not covered and the rain washes through these cars and runs into the ditches on the side of the tracks. Driving by this landfill, you can also see the water run down these hills. The trucks and equipment that come down the hills also track that mud and sludge across the roadway so I have to say, that mess runs from the roads into the surrounding ground and ditches too. These ditches are not lined so how are we to believe that this runoff does not seep into the ground water at any point and where does it go from there?

There are creeks on either side of this landfill, one that empties into the Portage River and one that enters into the Sandusky River, which both empty into Lake Erie. Many of my friends and my family enjoy recreational activities on these rivers and lakes, such as fishing, boating, skiing, and swimming. If waters aren't tested by the people that should be doing extensive testing to find the source of these contaminants and toxins, these activities will be a thing of the past.

I have been researching contaminants and toxins associated with building materials that contain lead, Polyvinyl Chloride, variety of wood treatments, halogenated flame retardants, asbestos, Cadmium, Volital Organic Compounds, Silica, Fiberglass and many more toxins. Our health is at high risk from these contaminants which can cause respiratory problems, central nervous system damage, many types of cancers and horrible birth defects just to name a few. This is what is being carried into these landfills and traveling one way or another to our water sources. Testing at these landfills has to be regulated and do better.

In closing, I would like to acknowledge publicly the fact that there are a great number of people that will be affected by failure to contain these toxins. Many are unaware that this landfill exist and what harm it holds to them. The public needs to be educated on the facts, the train cars coming from other states our community and the harmful chemicals that are being dumped on us. If the states are hauling this trash to our state to get rid of, there is a major reason they don't want it in their landfill or in their environment. From my standpoint, is it the money that is to be made the most important? The health of our community and the generations to come, our children and grandchildren, should be the number one concern.

I thank you once again and also thank Senator Reineke for introducing SB119.







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