



Representatives Roy Klopfenstein

82nd House District

Chairman Blessing, Vice Chair Roegner, Ranking Member Smith, and members of the Senate Ways and Means Committee, thank you the opportunity to offer sponsor testimony on House Bill 324.

Ohio is home to 7 ethanol plants that purchase 233 million bushels of corn each year from over 5,300 family farms across the state. One of these plants is in my district, providing good jobs for over 40 people and making 90 million gallons of bioethanol annually. This biofuel costs about 16 cents less per gallon than regular fuel and can be used by 9 out of 10 cars on the road today. Unfortunately, most of the biofuel made in Ohio is sold to other states because only 144 stations in Ohio sell it, compared to over 2,300 stations nationwide.

Switching from E10 to E15 in Ohio would increase the demand for an extra 84 million bushels of corn each year, worth about \$328 million, which would help farmers across the state. It would also add about \$650 million to our economy, increase household incomes by \$231 million, and bring in \$57 million in tax revenue. This is in addition to current 15,500 jobs and \$1.4 billion in economic contribution ethanol producers provide to our state.

I would like to take the opportunity to thank my joint sponsor, Representative McClain, for allowing me to work on this bill. This bill passed the House with strong Bipartisan support. I would like to thank you, Mr. Chairman, for the opportunity to provide sponsor testimony and respectfully ask for the committee's support of this legislation.