

Ronald Bracale
402 Daniels, Ave.
Conneaut, Ohio 44030
May 16, 2016

Senator Kris Jordan
Senate Building
1 Capitol Square, Ground Floor
Columbus, OH 43215

Ref: Senate Bill 293 Section 1547.84

Dear Senator Jordan:

As you are aware, Senate Bill 293 Section 1547.84 regarding the consolidation of the Scenic River Advisory Councils has been returned to the Sunset Review Committee for re-evaluation and possible amendments. I would like to express my strong reservations regarding the language that was in the proposed legislation, ie, the intent to inactivate the 14 separate Advisory Councils and to consolidate said Councils into a single entity with membership appointed by the Director of the ODNR. I am asking that the Sunset Review Committee keep the Scenic River format in its current form, for the following reasons:

- The Scenic River Advisory committees will better serve the ODNR in their current configuration; local input from citizenry will be much more effective in providing feedback on the various Scenic rivers to assist ODNR in making decisions that are best for each river
- I have been a member, volunteering time for five years. I believe you are missing the monetization of the value added by members such as myself in your calculations. As a development and systems analyst and engineer in the software field, I have a great deal of logical and advanced input which you will lose with the current proposal.
- I have seen many times where at a local meeting one of the members will report violations occurring on state land as well as destructive activities such as tree cutting and 4 wheeler paths being formed. This type of input will be lost to you if the current proposal is approved.
- Taking the local community out of the equation will result in a great loss of local knowledge in many other aspects of maintaining the lands, such as community and historical perspectives..

I strongly encourage your Committee to reject the legislation in the original proposal of Ohio Senate Bill 293. The Scenic River Advisory Councils will continue to best serve the state of Ohio and ODNR in their current configuration. Thank you for your time and efforts on behalf of the Scenic River Advisory Councils.

Best regards,

Ronald Bracale
Conneaut Creek Scenic River Advisory Council
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