



June 19, 2018



Governor John Kasich
77 S. High Street
Columbus, OH 43215



Dear Governor Kasich:

We write as representatives of Ohio's agricultural community and one of the largest industries in the state helping to provide jobs for 1 out of every 8 Ohioans. This letter is to share our concerns and frustrations with your consideration of a unilateral executive action on water quality targeted at agriculture.



As we have shared before, we firmly believe it is tremendously important for discussions such as this to include policymakers from the administration, the legislature and stakeholders. The agricultural community must be engaged in a collaborative effort to resolve issues surrounding timing, regulatory conformity, and financial, educational and implementation resources. Issuing blanket executive orders is simply not appropriate and something we strongly oppose.



For a governor who prides himself on transparency and inclusiveness, it is disappointing at best that you are considering an executive action, yet members of your administration have been unwilling to meet or provide any detail of your intentions. As our farmers face the lowest farm income in 12 years and repeated media attacks questioning their integrity and desire to be good stewards, it is disheartening to these hard working families to feel that their voices are not being heard.



There is substantial scientific data showing the tremendous work and progress that has been made across the agricultural landscape. We would be willing to share that information if given the opportunity. We also know that our agricultural landscape is very unique, and a politically expedient and one-sized fits all regulatory approach is not effective.



To remain a viable industry that provides affordable and wholesome food to consumers, we must continue to promote science driven farm management practices. Despite the uncertainties of the regulatory and political landscape, our members remain steadfast in their efforts to improve water quality.



Sincerely,



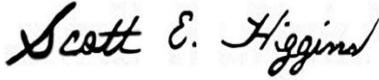
Christopher Henney
Ohio AgriBusiness Association



Elizabeth Harsh
Ohio Cattlemen's Association



Tadd Nicholson
Ohio Corn & Wheat Growers Assn



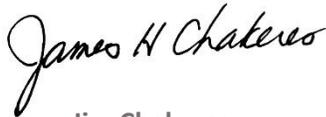
Scott Higgins
Ohio Dairy Producers Association



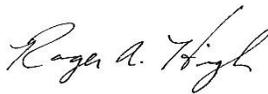
Adam Sharp
Ohio Farm Bureau Federation



Bryan Humphreys
Ohio Pork Producers



Jim Chakeres
Ohio Poultry Association



Roger High
Ohio Sheep Improvement Assn



Kirk Merritt
Ohio Soybean Association

Cc: Ohio House of Representatives
Ohio Senate
Beth Hansen, Chief of Staff, Governor Kasich's Office