

# **ASK THE COMMISSIONERS TO PROTECT OUR WATER**

- **We have chosen Medina for its nature, trees and open spaces.**
- **Some Ohio Legislators are sponsoring bills that would allow RADIOACTIVE oil and gas waste to be used for de-icing or dust suppressant on our roads.**
- **To protect our air and water for the families, pets and agricultural animals of Medina County please contact the Commissioners and ask them to pass the below Resolution.**

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## **RESOLUTION OPPOSING HOUSE BILL 282 AND SENATE BILL 171**

**Whereas;** Medina County Commissioners are aware of Ohio Department of Natural Resources tests confirming dangerously high levels of radium 226 and 228 in oil and gas "brine" from conventional and unconventional oil and gas production wells; and

**Whereas;** oil and gas waste are used on some Ohio roads as a deicer and dust suppressant, as a result the oil and gas waste may enter the soil, be tracked into homes and/or become airborne radioactive dust; and

**Whereas;** the passage of House Bill 282 and/or Senate Bill 171 would allow oil and gas waste to be sold as a retail product, without any requirement for testing for radioactivity or appropriate labeling concerning the possibility of radioactivity or other health hazards; and

**Whereas;** the Ohio Department of Natural Resources Director, Mary Mertz, has stated "The passage of HB 282/SB 171 does not ensure the protection of public health and safety or the environment. Under HB 282/SB 171, this commodity would be exempt from any and all references to brine in the law. By creating this commodity exemption, the legislation creates public safety concerns by doing all the following:

- Eliminates the requirement for a person or entity who wishes to spread brine deemed a commodity to notify their local board of county commissioners;
- Eliminates the requirement that local governments who wish to spread brine deemed a commodity on the roads they own or control to first vote to adopt a resolution;
- Eliminates the requirement to use registered brine haulers for the surface application of oilfield brines;
- Eliminates the requirements of bonding and insurance for liability and surety purposes that is required of brine haulers; and
- Eliminates all regulatory authority over oilfield wastes that would be classified as a "commodity," including tracking and safety protection;" and

**Whereas;** the Medina County Commissioners recognize that clean water and air are essential for the life, prosperity, sustainability and the health of our community and that damage to water, air and property causes tangible loss to health, property and the life of individuals, agricultural animals, pets, communities and ecosystems; further we take seriously our responsibility to protect our citizen.

**Now, therefore, be it resolved,** that the Medina County Commissioners hereby oppose HB 282 and SB 171 and we respectfully request that the chairs of the House Energy and Natural Resources Committee and Senate Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee not bring those bills to a vote in their respective committees, and further that HB 282 and/or SB 171 not become the law of Ohio.