

Dear Ohio Senate Judiciary Committee,

Senate Bill 33 is unconstitutional because it violates the First Amendment of The United States Constitution. All citizens of this nation have a right to the freedom of speech. Senate Bill 33 violates the First Amendment in Section 2917.32 (A)(1):

“No person shall do any of the following: Initiate or circulate a report or warning of an alleged or impending fire, explosion, crime, or other catastrophe, knowing that the report or warning is false and likely to cause public inconvenience or alarm;”

The natural gas industry is attempting to stop the discussion between the public and its government about the practices of the industry. Senate Bill 33 would make it illegal for the public to warn of the known risks of the natural gas industry. It is known that the industry has a potential to cause fires, explosions, crimes, and catastrophes from the drilling and transportation of natural gas. The legislature is abusing its power by drafting this unconstitutional bill.

The Ohio Legislature is sworn into office to protect the public from harm and Senate Bill 33 has been written to protect the natural gas industry from scrutiny. The Ohio Legislature has sworn an oath to protect the civil rights of the citizens of Ohio and Senate Bill 33 is attempting to violate those rights.

Sincerely,

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