



**County  
Commissioners  
Association of Ohio**

*Serving Ohio Counties Since 1880*

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February 18, 2014

**TO House State & Local Government Committee**  
**FROM Cheryl Subler, Managing Director of Policy**  
**RE Support for SB 155**

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Chairman Blair, Vice Chair Anielski, Ranking Member Clyde, and Members of the Committee:

My name is Cheryl Subler, and I'd like to thank you for the opportunity to represent the County Commissioners Association of Ohio (CCAO) before you today to offer support for SB 155.

As you know, SB 155 would authorize joint boards of county commissioners, when practical to conducting proceedings on existing improvement projects and other routine business via video conference or teleconference.

As background, an example of an existing improvement project would include the following:

- The location, construction, reconstructions, reconditioning, widening, deepening, straightening, altering, boxing, tiling, filling, walling, arching, or any change in the course, location, or terminus of any ditch, drain, water course, or floodway;
- The deepening, widening, or straightening or any other change in the course, location, or terminus of a river, creek, or run;
- A levee or any wall, embankment, jetty, dike, dam sluice, revetment, reservoir, holding basin, control gate, breakwater, or other structure for the protection of lands from the overflow from any stream, lake, or pond, or for the protection of any outlet, or for the storage or control of water;
- The removal of obstructions such as silt bars, log jams, debris, and drift from any ditch, drain, watercourse, floodway, river, creek, or run; and
- The vacating of a ditch or drain.

The legislation also requires boards that utilize electronic conferencing to take measures to provide for public attendance at any location involved in such a proceeding. In addition, the bill requires the minutes of such meetings to identify those members of the joint board who were attending by teleconference, by video conference, or physically present.



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CCAO's Legislative Platform specifically supports this initiative. The Association believes this authority "actually would enhance public participation and save taxpayer monies by removing the time and expense of travel" for such participation. CCAO applauds and thanks Senator Burke for his work on this measure.

Again, thank you for the opportunity to appear before you today on behalf of CCAO. I would be happy to answer any questions you may have.

