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KOCH! KOCH! KOCH!

HOW THE KOCHS HAVE POLLUTED OHIO WITH THEIR BUSINESS & POLITICS



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Charles and David Koch recently announced they are on track to raise and spend almost \$900 million during the 2016 election cycle to push their candidates and policies, effectively giving their network parity with national political parties. However, the Kochs' spending is not motivated by patriotic or civic duty – it's motivated by their bottom line. Illustrating the importance of Ohio in their political plans, the Kochs' main advocacy arm, Americans for Prosperity, chose Columbus as the location for their 2015 national conference. Ohio is a prime example of the self-enriching relationship between Koch Industries and the Koch political network, which allows the billionaire brothers to use their political influence to advocate for state and local policies that benefit themselves at the expense of Ohioans. As Koch companies pollute Ohio's air and water, Koch political groups' advocacy against environmental safeguards, worker protections, access to health care, clean energy, and other policies hurts Ohio's people, environment, and economy.

Koch Industries' footprint in Ohio includes several Georgia Pacific plants and other facilities, some of which were found violating OSHA and EPA rules, and the brothers regularly use their political apparatus to protect these business interests. One target of their attacks is clean power, including solar and wind energy, which they attack to protect their oil and gas empire. Legislation pushed by the Koch-backed groups Americans for Prosperity and the American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC) has had a devastating effect on the renewable energy economy in Ohio, causing investments in the state's clean energy sector to plummet. The uncertain business climate, caused by the combination of a freeze on renewable energy standards and increased regulations on wind power, has already forced solar and wind companies to take business and jobs to other states, and puts thousands more jobs at potential risk. The Kochs' successful campaign demonstrates not just their power, but their hypocrisy as well. Charles and David Koch claim to be opposed to so-called government interference and regulations, but their groups actively advocate for regulations and restrictions that help solidify the Kochs' place in the market.

Beyond blocking efforts for cleaner energy, Koch Industries also has endangered the health of Ohio families with its plants that contaminate Ohio's air and drinking water. Georgia Pacific's plant in Columbus was the target of a city-wide citizen campaign over its use of an unlined "toxic waste pit." The pit, located near a number of residential areas, has been used by the GP plant to dump its wastewater for over a decade. The campaign calling for the pit to be closed or replaced included letters and pictures drawn by school children depicting the GP plant belching pollution clouds and flames. Despite this, GP has consistently ignored residents' concerns, and the plant has continued to violate safety and health procedures, earning a citation from OSHA as recently as January 2015 for 11 "serious chemical safety violations."

The Kochs have even fought basic regulations that could prevent toxic algae blooms from poisoning Lake Erie, like the one currently forming, and the one in 2014 that left the entire city of Toledo without safe drinking water for days. The algae blooms are caused by runoff from fertilizer, a product in which Koch Industries is deeply invested. Koch, as part of the Fertilizer Institute and the Ohio AgriBusiness Association, lobbied on bills that could have prevented or mitigated the poisonous blooms.

Koch groups have also backed anti-worker legislation in Ohio. Americans for Prosperity pushed for a bill that would have stripped public employees of their collective bargaining rights. AFP's efforts included direct lobbying and a "door-to-door grass-roots campaign" in support of the legislation, which was authored by a member of ALEC. Despite the Koch group's crusade, Ohio voters "overwhelmingly" rejected the law in a state referendum. But that has not stopped AFP from continuing to advocate for restrictions on unions and to push for a so called "right-to-work" law for Ohio.

The Kochs' network has consistently inserted itself into local issues in Ohio, too, opposing efforts to raise revenue to fund the fire and police departments, and even killing a modest funding proposal for the popular Columbus Zoo, which is home to more than 10,000 animals and is visited by more than two million people every year. The latter earned national attention when Stephen Colbert mocked the Kochs' ultimately successful effort on his show.

The Kochs have close ties to Republican elected officials in Ohio, including John Kasich, Ohio's current governor and a 2016 presidential candidate. Kasich has been involved in the Koch-backed ALEC since its "formative years," and has received funding and support from the Kochs. While Kasich broke with the Kochs on the expansion of Medicaid, choosing to expand access to more than 450,000 Ohioans and creating some friction with the billionaire brothers, he shows no signs of diverging from their legislative and policy agenda in other areas. The Kochs strongly support Sen. Rob Portman and are assisting him in

his challenging 2016 reelection campaign. Koch groups have spent heavily in Ohio since 2010, including a “state-of-the-art digital ground operation” and an “aggressive” campaign against Democratic Sen. Sherrod Brown in 2012. The groups have also spent millions in the state opposing the federal stimulus law and the Affordable Care Act.

Through their network, the Kochs have spent millions on campaigns, candidates, and lobbying to re-mold Ohio into a utopia for their private business and radical conservatism that hurts Ohioans, and they continue to push their agenda on the state no matter the costs to Ohio citizens.

As Americans for Prosperity’s former Ohio director, Eli Miller, put it during the Kochs’ fight against the Columbus Zoo: “There is nothing we won’t do.”

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KOCH INDUSTRIES' PRESENCE IN OHIO

Koch Has Eight Facilities In Ohio, Three Koch Fertilizer Facilities, Four Georgia-Pacific Facilities, One Koch Chemical Technology Facility. According to the Koch Industries website, Koch Industries has eight facilities in Ohio, three Koch Fertilizer facilities, four Georgia-Pacific facilities, and one Koch Chemical Technology facility. [KochInd.com, viewed [8/17/15](#)]

Georgia Pacific's Facilities In Ohio Are Located In Columbus, Circleville, West Chester, and Mogadore. According to Georgia Pacific's Ohio fact sheet, Georgia Pacific Chemicals is located in Columbus, Georgia Pacific Corrugated is located in Circleville, Georgia Pacific Akron Corrugated, and Georgia Pacific Corrugated Sheets has two plants in West Chester. [Georgia Pacific State Fact Sheet, [February 2015](#)]

Koch Nitrogen's Facilities In Ohio Are Located In Cincinnati and Portsmouth. According to the Koch Industries website, Koch Nitrogen's locations in Ohio are Cincinnati and Mogadore. [KochInd.com, viewed [8/17/15](#)]

Koch Chemical Technology Is Located In East Canton, Ohio. According to the Koch Industries website, Koch Chemical Technology's facility is located in East Canton, Ohio. [KochInd.com, viewed [8/17/15](#)]

Georgia Pacific's Columbus Plant Was Cited For Numerous Violations, And Residents Have Been Concerned About Pollution For Years

KOCH ACQUIRED GEORGIA-PACIFIC IN 2005

In November 2005 Koch Industries Agreed To Purchase Georgia-Pacific For \$13.2 Billion And To Assume \$7.8 Billion Of Its Debt. According to the Wall Street Journal, "Koch Industries Inc. agreed to purchase building-products and paper maker Georgia-Pacific Corp. for \$13.2 billion, bringing the maker of Brawny paper towels and Dixie cups under the roof of what will become the nation's largest private company by revenue. Under terms of the deal, Koch will make a \$48 per share cash tender to Georgia-Pacific shareholders, a price 39% above where Georgia Pacific's shares closed trading on Friday. Koch, based in Wichita, Kan., will also assume \$7.8 billion of Georgia-Pacific debt outstanding." [Wall Street Journal, [11/14/05](#)]

GP'S COLUMBUS PLANT WAS CITED AND FINED FOR NUMEROUS VIOLATIONS

Headline: "Georgia-Pacific Chemicals Cited For 11 Serious Chemical Safety Violations; OSHA Proposes \$60,500 In Penalties." [OSHA Regional News Release, [1/26/15](#)]

OSHA: "Workers At GP Chemicals Were Exposed To Dangerous Chemicals, Such As Formaldehyde And Other ...Hazards, Because The Company Failed To Implement Proper Chemical Management Procedures" At Its Plant In Columbus, Ohio. According to a regional news release from the Occupational Safety & Health Administration, "Workers at Georgia-Pacific Chemicals LLC were exposed to dangerous chemicals, such as formaldehyde and other potential health and safety hazards, because the company failed to implement proper chemical management procedures at its Columbus plant. An investigation by the U.S. Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration produced 11 serious violations with penalties totaling \$60,500." [OSHA Regional News Release, [1/26/15](#)]

"An Investigation By The U.S. Department Of Labor's Occupational Safety And Health Administration Produced 11 Serious Violations With Penalties Totaling \$60,500." According to a regional news release from the Occupational Safety & Health Administration, "Workers at Georgia-Pacific Chemicals LLC were exposed to dangerous chemicals, such as formaldehyde and other potential health and safety hazards, because the company failed to implement proper chemical management procedures at its Columbus plant. An investigation by the U.S. Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration produced 11 serious violations with penalties totaling \$60,500." [OSHA Regional News Release, [1/26/15](#)]

“One Of The Hazards Identified Was Formaldehyde, Which Is Manufactured For Use In Various Industrial Applications And Products.” According to a regional news release from the Occupational Safety & Health Administration, “OSHA cited the violations under its Process Safety Management Standards, which contain specific requirements for managing highly hazardous chemicals in work processes. One of the hazards identified was formaldehyde, which is manufactured for use in various industrial applications and products. Formaldehyde can irritate the skin, eyes, nose and throat; it is deadly if swallowed. Formaldehyde also is a fire and explosion hazard if exposed to heat or flame. It is a colorless, strong-smelling gas.” [OSHA Regional News Release, [1/26/15](#)]

OSHA's Area Director In Columbus Deborah Zubaty: “Chemical Manufacturing Can Be Catastrophic If Proper Safeguards Are Not In Place, And Georgia-Pacific Chemicals Failed To Meet That Responsibility.” According to a regional news release from the Occupational Safety & Health Administration, “‘Chemical manufacturing can be catastrophic if proper safeguards are not in place, and Georgia-Pacific Chemicals failed to meet that responsibility,’ said Deborah Zubaty, OSHA's area director in Columbus. ‘Exposure to formaldehyde can have serious health consequences. Workers should not be put at risk because this company failed to implement required procedures.’” [OSHA Regional News Release, [1/26/15](#)]

Deborah Zubaty: “Workers Should Not Be Put At Risk Because This Company Failed To Implement Required Procedures.” According to a regional news release from the Occupational Safety & Health Administration, “‘Chemical manufacturing can be catastrophic if proper safeguards are not in place, and Georgia-Pacific Chemicals failed to meet that responsibility,’ said Deborah Zubaty, OSHA's area director in Columbus. ‘Exposure to formaldehyde can have serious health consequences. Workers should not be put at risk because this company failed to implement required procedures.’” [OSHA Regional News Release, [1/26/15](#)]

“The July 16, 2014, Inspection Found That Georgia-Pacific Chemical's Standard Operating Procedures Did Not Contain Accurate Information On Safety Systems And How They Worked.” According to a regional news release from the Occupational Safety & Health Administration, “The July 16, 2014, inspection found that Georgia-Pacific Chemical's standard operating procedures did not contain accurate information on safety systems and how they worked. The company's process hazard analysis, an evaluation used to identify potential hazards associated with the processing of highly hazardous chemicals, failed to address many issues in the plant. In addition, employees were not trained in changes to these processes, and inspections and equipment testing were not completed as scheduled.” [OSHA Regional News Release, [1/26/15](#)]

GP's Process To Identify Potential Hazards “Failed To Address Many Issues,” Also “Employees Were Not Trained In Changes To These Processes, And Inspections And Equipment Testing Were Not Completed As Scheduled.” According to a regional news release from the Occupational Safety & Health Administration, “The July 16, 2014, inspection found that Georgia-Pacific Chemical's standard operating procedures did not contain accurate information on safety systems and how they worked. The company's process hazard analysis, an evaluation used to identify potential hazards associated with the processing of highly hazardous chemicals, failed to address many issues in the plant. In addition, employees were not trained in changes to these processes, and inspections and equipment testing were not completed as scheduled.” [OSHA Regional News Release, [1/26/15](#)]

GP Chemicals Had “15 Business Days From Receipt Of Its Citations And Proposed Penalties To Comply, Request An Informal Conference With OSHA's Area Director, Or Contest The Findings.” According to a regional news release from the Occupational Safety & Health Administration, “Atlanta-based Georgia-Pacific Chemicals, a subsidiary of Georgia-Pacific LLC, is a nationwide chemical manufacturer and distributor. The company produces a diverse range of products used in the building, oil and gas, mining, paper and packaging industries. The company employs 44 workers at the Columbus plant and has 15 business days from receipt of its citations and proposed penalties to comply, request an informal conference with OSHA's area director, or contest the findings before the independent Occupational Safety and Health Review Commission.” [OSHA Regional News Release, [1/26/15](#)]

TOXINS RELEASED BY GEORGIA PACIFIC'S PLANT INCLUDE AMMONIA, FORMALDEHYDE, TOLUENE AND XYLENE

Toxins Released By The Georgia-Pacific Plant In The South Side Of Columbus, Ohio, “Include Ammonia, Formaldehyde, Toluene And Xylene.” According to the Columbus Dispatch, “A glass-recycling factory planned for the South Side has renewed many neighbors' fears of pollution. [...] Three factories just east of the proposed glass plant on Watkins Road legally released a total of 13,902 pounds of air pollutants last year, according to federal data. The toxins released by Georgia-Pacific, ArcelorMittal and Sherwin-Williams include ammonia, formaldehyde, toluene and xylene. The

ArcelorMittal plant released 0.28 pound of lead. Formaldehyde is a known cancer risk. Toluene and xylene can cause dizziness and nausea. Ammonia irritates the eyes, nose and throat.” [Columbus Dispatch, [11/11/13](#)]

“Formaldehyde Is A Known Cancer Risk. Toluene And Xylene Can Cause Dizziness And Nausea. Ammonia Irritates The Eyes, Nose And Throat.” According to the Columbus Dispatch, “The toxins released by Georgia-Pacific, ArcelorMittal and Sherwin-Williams include ammonia, formaldehyde, toluene and xylene. The ArcelorMittal plant released 0.28 pound of lead. Formaldehyde is a known cancer risk. Toluene and xylene can cause dizziness and nausea. Ammonia irritates the eyes, nose and throat.” [Columbus Dispatch, [11/11/13](#)]

The Georgia-Pacific, ArcelorMittal And Sherwin-Williams Plants In Columbus “Released A Total Of 13,902 Pounds Of Air Pollutants” In 2012. According to the Columbus Dispatch, “A glass-recycling factory planned for the South Side has renewed many neighbors’ fears of pollution. [...] Three factories just east of the proposed glass plant on Watkins Road legally released a total of 13,902 pounds of air pollutants last year, according to federal data. The toxins released by Georgia-Pacific, ArcelorMittal and Sherwin-Williams include ammonia, formaldehyde, toluene and xylene. The ArcelorMittal plant released 0.28 pound of lead. Formaldehyde is a known cancer risk. Toluene and xylene can cause dizziness and nausea. Ammonia irritates the eyes, nose and throat.” [Columbus Dispatch, [11/11/13](#)]

IN 2007 COLUMBUS CITIZENS PROTESTED GP’S USE OF A WASTEWATER PIT NEAR THEIR HOMES



Picture included in a letter to Georgia Pacific plant manager David Mason Jr. [OhioCitizen.org/campaigns, [12/7/06](#)]

Columbus, Ohio Citizens Protested Georgia Pacific’s Use Of A 2 Million Gallon Wastewater Pond Behind Its Plant On Watkins Road. According to the Columbus Dispatch, “But yesterday, the 80-year-old stood outside the Georgia-Pacific plant on Watkins Road with neighbors, church leaders and environmental advocates and held high a ‘close the pit’ sign. They were there to protest the 2-million-gallon wastewater pond behind the plant before Georgia-Pacific officials sat down with members of Ohio Citizen Action and the Marion Franklin Area Civic Association. The groups have sent 12,000 letters and placed more than 1,100 ‘close the pit’ signs in yards across central Ohio.” [Columbus Dispatch, [8/9/07](#)]

Ohio Citizen Action And The Marion Franklin Area Civic Association “Sent 12,000 Letters And Placed More Than 1,100 ‘Close The Pit’ Signs In Yards Across Central Ohio.” According to the Columbus Dispatch, “But yesterday, the 80-year-old stood outside the Georgia-Pacific plant on Watkins Road with neighbors, church leaders and environmental advocates and held high a ‘close the pit’ sign. They were there to protest the 2-million-gallon wastewater pond behind the plant before Georgia-Pacific officials sat down with members of Ohio Citizen Action and the Marion Franklin Area Civic Association. The groups have sent 12,000 letters and placed more than 1,100 ‘close the pit’ signs in yards across central Ohio.” [Columbus Dispatch, [8/9/07](#)]

- **As Part Of Ohio Citizen Action’s Letter Writing Campaign A Class Of Fourth Graders At Tyler Run Elementary Wrote To Georgia Pacific Asking It To Close The “Toxic Pit.”** According to a post on the Ohio Citizen Action website, “Fourth Graders of Tyler Run Elementary write to Georgia-Pacific [...] Dear David Mason Jr., I am a fourth

grader at Tyler Run. In class I've been learning about how humans affect the environment both positively and negatively. I've recently become aware of the problem of toxic waste. I've learned that you have a toxic pit behind your factory. You are overloading it with toxic waste. The chemicals can cause horrible diseases. Finally, I've learned that bugs and bacteria eat these horrible chemicals, yet at your facility they are dying because there is too much toxic waste. This contamination affects people, land and water. I'm writing to you to ask for your help with this problem. I'm asking that your company close the toxic pit and replace it with an updated wastewater treatment facility.” [OhioCitizen.org/campaigns, [12/7/06](#)]

- **Fourth Graders’ Letters To GP: “I’ve Learned That You Have A Toxic Pit Behind Your Factory. You Are Overloading It With Toxic Waste. The Chemicals Can Cause Horrible Diseases.”** According to a post on the Ohio Citizen Action website, “Fourth Graders of Tyler Run Elementary write to Georgia-Pacific [...] Dear David Mason Jr., I am a fourth grader at Tyler Run. In class I've been learning about how humans affect the environment both positively and negatively. I've recently become aware of the problem of toxic waste. I've learned that you have a toxic pit behind your factory. You are overloading it with toxic waste. The chemicals can cause horrible diseases. Finally, I've learned that bugs and bacteria eat these horrible chemicals, yet at your facility they are dying because there is too much toxic waste. This contamination affects people, land and water. I'm writing to you to ask for your help with this problem. I'm asking that your company close the toxic pit and replace it with an updated wastewater treatment facility.” [OhioCitizen.org/campaigns, [12/7/06](#)]
- **Fourth Graders Letters To GP: “I’ve Learned That Bugs And Bacteria Eat These Horrible Chemicals, Yet At Your Facility They Are Dying Because There Is Too Much Toxic Waste. This Contamination Affects People, Land And Water.”** According to a post on the Ohio Citizen Action website, “Fourth Graders of Tyler Run Elementary write to Georgia-Pacific [...] Dear David Mason Jr., I am a fourth grader at Tyler Run. In class I've been learning about how humans affect the environment both positively and negatively. I've recently become aware of the problem of toxic waste. I've learned that you have a toxic pit behind your factory. You are overloading it with toxic waste. The chemicals can cause horrible diseases. Finally, I've learned that bugs and bacteria eat these horrible chemicals, yet at your facility they are dying because there is too much toxic waste. This contamination affects people, land and water.” [OhioCitizen.org/campaigns, [12/7/06](#)]
- **The Fourth Graders Asked GP To Replace The Pit With An Updated Wastewater Treatment Facility And For GP To “Reduce Toxic Air Emissions From The Plant.”** According to a post on the Ohio Citizen Action website, “Fourth Graders of Tyler Run Elementary write to Georgia-Pacific [...] I'm writing to you to ask for your help with this problem. I'm asking that your company close the toxic pit and replace it with an updated wastewater treatment facility. Second, please modernize the formaldehyde [sic] production line. Third, please reduce toxic air emissions from the plant. Finally, please get some new equipment so there are no more explosions. I would like your company to be responsible for helping the health of the future generations by reducing pollution in our environment. I so appreciate your help in this problem. I know that you will do what is right for our environment!” [OhioCitizen.org/campaigns, [12/7/06](#)]
- **The Fourth Graders Also Asked GP To “Get Some New Equipment So There Are No More Explosions.”** According to a post on the Ohio Citizen Action website, “Fourth Graders of Tyler Run Elementary write to Georgia-Pacific [...] I'm writing to you to ask for your help with this problem. I'm asking that your company close the toxic pit and replace it with an updated wastewater treatment facility. Second, please modernize the formaldehyde [sic] production line. Third, please reduce toxic air emissions from the plant. Finally, please get some new equipment so there are no more explosions. I would like your company to be responsible for helping the health of the future generations by reducing pollution in our environment. I so appreciate your help in this problem. I know that you will do what is right for our environment!” [OhioCitizen.org/campaigns, [12/7/06](#)]

80-Year-Old Mary Hawkins Stood Outside The Georgia Pacific Plant Holding A “Close The Pit” Sign. According to the Columbus Dispatch, “Mary Hawkins doesn't leave her South Side house when the temperature climbs above 90 degrees. But yesterday, the 80-year-old stood outside the Georgia-Pacific plant on Watkins Road with neighbors, church leaders and environmental advocates and held high a ‘close the pit’ sign.” [Columbus Dispatch, [8/9/07](#)]

“The Pond Uses Bacteria To Consume Waste Chemicals, Including Phenol, Methanol And Formaldehyde.”

According to the Columbus Dispatch, “The pond uses bacteria to consume waste chemicals, including phenol, methanol and formaldehyde. The treated water then is sent into the city sewer system. The pond was one focus of a study ordered by a Franklin County Common Pleas Court in 2001 as part of a \$22 million lawsuit settlement.” [Columbus Dispatch, [8/9/07](#)]

“The Pond Was One Focus Of A Study” Ordered As Part Of A Lawsuit Brought By Neighbors Of The GP Plant, After A Resin Kettle Exploded In 1997, “Killing A Worker And Forcing The Evacuation Of 15 Houses.” According to the Columbus Dispatch, “The pond was one focus of a study ordered by a Franklin County Common Pleas Court in 2001 as part of a \$22 million lawsuit settlement. Plant neighbors sued after an 8,500-gallon resin kettle exploded in 1997, killing a worker and forcing the evacuation of 15 houses. But the battle over the pit seems to have only spread since then.” [Columbus Dispatch, [8/9/07](#)]

President Of The Environmental Consulting Firm “Assigned To Study The Pond,” Henry S. Cole: “The Pit Is Obsolete And Dangerous. It's Essentially A 19th-Century Technology Being Used In The 21st Century.” According to the Columbus Dispatch, “Plant neighbors sued after an 8,500-gallon resin kettle exploded in 1997, killing a worker and forcing the evacuation of 15 houses. But the battle over the pit seems to have only spread since then. ‘The pit is obsolete and dangerous. It's essentially a 19th-century technology being used in the 21st century,’ said Henry S. Cole, president of an environmental consulting firm in Washington, D.C., that was assigned to study the pond in the settlement.” [Columbus Dispatch, [8/9/07](#)]

Cole’s Report, Issued In 2005, “Said That Air Pollution From The Pond Is Underestimated And That Additional Tests Are Needed.” According to the Columbus Dispatch, “‘The pit is obsolete and dangerous. It's essentially a 19th-century technology being used in the 21st century,’ said Henry S. Cole, president of an environmental consulting firm in Washington, D.C., that was assigned to study the pond in the settlement. His report, issued in October 2005, said that air pollution from the pond is underestimated and that additional tests are needed.” [Columbus Dispatch, [8/9/07](#)]

The Ohio EPA Refused To Take Further Action On The Pond, Stating “From An Environmental Point Of View, This Is Not A Significant Issue.” According to the Columbus Dispatch, “His [Henry S. Cole] report, issued in October 2005, said that air pollution from the pond is underestimated and that additional tests are needed. The Ohio Environmental Protection Agency disagrees. We believe that we have already done a thorough job, and so further tests haven't been necessary,’ said Isaac Robinson, air-pollution manager for the agency's central district office. ‘From an environmental point of view, this is not a significant issue.’” [Columbus Dispatch, [8/9/07](#)]

OHIO EPA AND GP REACHED AN AGREEMENT ON THE BIO-POND BUT IT HAS REMAINED OPEN, AND RESIDENTS CONTINUED TO EXPRESS CONCERNS

Georgia Pacific Agreed To Decommission The Bio-Pond “When It’s No Longer Used For Manufacturing Operations.” According to a press release from the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency, “Ohio EPA and the Georgia-Pacific Corporation of Atlanta, Ga. have agreed on a final cleanup plan for the Georgia-Pacific Chemicals LLC resins manufacturing facility located at 1975 Watkins Road in Columbus (Franklin County). While historic concerns at the site have already been addressed, this settlement requires the implementation of the decision document issued by Ohio EPA in October 2006, and includes the following actions to ensure the property remains protective of human health and safety and the environment: [...] decommissioning the bio-pond when it’s no longer used for manufacturing operations, in accordance with an Ohio EPA approved plan.” [Ohio Environmental Protection Agency Press Release, [3/10/10](#)]

Ohio Resident Submitted Comment To Ohio EPA: “You Indicated That Georgia-Pacific” Would “Decommission” Its Bio-Pond, “But You Give No Time Frame” In Which It Would Be Decommissioned. According to an Ohio EPA response to comments guidance document with examples of comments from Ohio residents on the Georgia Pacific bio-pond and uploaded in 2008, “Also there is the bio pond, a lagoon in the back. You in your - - in the draft permit to install - - oh, no, in your preferred practice, you indicated that Georgia-Pacific would decommission, as recommended by our liaison, that they would decommission the lagoon; but you give no time frame in which the lagoon would be decommissioned. You say when Georgia-Pacific is through with it or through using it. Well, when is that? The public has no idea when that is going to end.” [Ohio EPA Response to Comments Guidance Document, [10/29/08](#), [upload data](#)]

- **Submitted Comment: “You Say” The Pond Will Be Decommissioned “When Georgia-Pacific Is Through With It Or Through Using It. Well, When Is That? The Public Has No Idea When That Is Going To End.”** According to an Ohio EPA response to comments guidance document with examples of comments from Ohio residents on the Georgia Pacific bio-pond and uploaded in 2008, “Also there is the bio pond, a lagoon in the back. You in your - - in the draft permit to install - - oh, no, in your preferred practice, you indicated that Georgia-Pacific would decommission, as recommended by our liaison, that they would decommission the lagoon; but you give no time frame in which the lagoon

would be decommissioned. You say when Georgia-Pacific is through with it or through using it. Well, when is that? The public has no idea when that is going to end.” [Ohio EPA Response to Comments Guidance Document, [10/29/08](#), [upload data](#)]

Commenters Were “Concerned About Contamination From The Bio-Pond Seeping” Into The Ground Water And Were “Also Concerned That This Contamination Could Make Its Way To The Deep Aquifer.” According to an Ohio EPA response to comments guidance document with examples of comments from Ohio residents on the Georgia Pacific bio-pond and uploaded in 2008, “Summarized Comment 3: Commenters are concerned about contamination from the bio-pond seeping into the shallow aquifer (ground water). They are also concerned that this contamination could make its way to the deep aquifer and threaten local drinking water.” [Ohio EPA Response to Comments Guidance Document, [10/29/08](#), [upload data](#)]

A Video By OSU Graduate Students Reported That GP’s “Toxic Waste Pit” In Columbus “Continues To Release Ammonia, Ethylene Glycol, Formaldehyde, Maleic Anhydride, Methanol And Rhenol Into The Environment.”

According to the video Surrounded: A Story of South Columbus by Ohio State University graduate students, “The Georgia Pacific Toxic Waste Pit. According to the EPA, Georgia-Pacific continues to release Ammonia, Ethylene Glycol, Formaldehyde, Maleic Anhydride, Methanol and Rhenol into the environment.” [Surrounded: A Story of South Columbus via YouTube, [3/4/10](#)]

South Columbus Resident Barbara Wood: “When You Open The Door, You Can Smell A Rancid Sulfur.” According to the video Surrounded: A Story of South Columbus by Ohio State University graduate students, Barbara Wood: “When you open the door, you can smell a rancid sulfur... It’s hard to definitively state which plant is the largest polluter. The fact that Georgia Pacific had the explosions...” [Surrounded: A Story of South Columbus via YouTube, [3/4/10](#)]

Former South Columbus Resident Mike Jones: “They Call It A ‘Bio-Pond’ And We Call It A ‘Toxic Waste Pit.’ And It Is Exactly, A Toxic Waste Pit.” According to the video Surrounded: A Story of South Columbus by Ohio State University graduate students, Mike Jones: “They call it a ‘bio-pond’ and we call it a ‘toxic waste pit.’ And it is exactly, a toxic waste pit.” [Surrounded: A Story of South Columbus via YouTube, [3/4/10](#)]



[Surrounded: A Story of South Columbus via YouTube, [3/4/10](#)]

Leontien Kennedy Of Ohio Citizen Action: “The Pit Is Not Lined. So Chemicals Could Very Possibly Seep Into The Ground And In The Ground Water.” According to the video Surrounded: A Story of South Columbus by Ohio State University graduate students, Leontien Kennedy: “There are two problems really for the area, but the main problem is the air pollution. While it’s sitting it evaporates into the air [...] The other problem is that the pit is not lined. So chemicals could very possibly seep into the ground and in the ground water. That is a concern. This pit is very obsolete.” [Surrounded: A Story of South Columbus via YouTube, [3/4/10](#)]

2015: The Pit Remains Open. According to an email from the executive director of Ohio Citizen Action Rachael Belz, “We were not successful in getting the pit closed. It is still open to this day.” [Rachael Belz – email, 8/17/15]

An Ohio State University Neuroscientist Found Lead, Cadmium, Copper, Zinc, Chromium, Selenium And Molybdenum In Soil Samples Collected From The South Side Area Of Ohio

An Ohio State University Neuroscientist Found Lead, Cadmium, Copper, Zinc, Chromium, Selenium And Molybdenum In Soil Samples Collected From The South Side Area Of Ohio. According to an editorial by the Columbus Dispatch, “South Side residents have long feared that local industrial plants and foundries have tainted their air and soil. Unfortunately, a recent preliminary study -- yet to be verified by fellow scientists -- deepens that alarm without providing firm answers. At the behest of worried neighbors, an Ohio State University neuroscientist collected 86 soil samples in April from 21 locations in the Stambaugh-Elwood neighborhood; there, 62 houses sit near Rt. 104 and Parsons Avenue. Darryl B. Hood, associate professor of environmental health sciences, found lead, cadmium, copper, zinc, chromium, selenium and molybdenum. ‘We were very scientific and rigorous,’ Hood said. ‘This community is vulnerable and susceptible.’” [Editorial – Columbus Dispatch, [7/23/15](#)]

Columbus Dispatch Editorial: Columbus South Side Residents’ Fears of Pollution By Local Industrial Plants, Including Georgia Pacific, Were Deepened After Preliminary Research Findings. According to an editorial by the Columbus Dispatch, “South Side residents have long feared that local industrial plants and foundries have tainted their air and soil. Unfortunately, a recent preliminary study — yet to be verified by fellow scientists — deepens that alarm without providing firm answers. [...] Given their proximity to the city’s old industrial hub — and the fact that, in 1997, a resin tank at Georgia Pacific’s South Side plant exploded and, in May, a massive recycling-yard fire belched thick smoke over their homes — these neighbors have more cause than most to suspect that their health problems aren’t simply a matter of faulty genes or bad habits.” [Editorial – Columbus Dispatch, [7/23/15](#)]

Columbus Dispatch Editorial: “In 1997, A Resin Tank At Georgia Pacific’s South Side Plant Exploded,” So Residents Have A Reason “To Suspect That Their Health Problems Aren’t Simply A Matter Of Faulty Genes Or Bad Habits.” According to an editorial in the Columbus Dispatch, “Given their proximity to the city’s old industrial hub — and the fact that, in 1997, a resin tank at Georgia Pacific’s South Side plant exploded and, in May, a massive recycling-yard fire belched thick smoke over their homes — these neighbors have more cause than most to suspect that their health problems aren’t simply a matter of faulty genes or bad habits.” [Editorial – Columbus Dispatch, [7/23/15](#)]

GP’S COLUMBUS PLANT WAS CHARGED WITH FIVE EPA VIOLATIONS IN 2014

A Georgia Pacific Plant In Columbus, Ohio Was Charged With Five Violations Of The Resource Conservation And Recovery Act (RCRA) From October 30, 2014 Until May 11, 2015. According to the EPA’s Enforcement and Compliance History Online, the EPA found a Georgia-Pacific plant in Columbus, Ohio to have five RCRA violations from October 30, 2014 until May 11, 2014.” [Echo.EPA.gov, accessed [8/17/15](#)]

- **The RCRA Violations Included: “Generators – General, Two Counts Of TSD IS-Preparedness And Prevention, Universal Waste – Small Quantity Handlers, And Used Oil – Generators.”** According to the EPA’s Enforcement and Compliance History Online, Georgia Pacific’s Columbus plant was found to have five RCRA violations from October 30, 2014 until May 11, 2014 including “generators – general, two counts of tsd is-preparedness and prevention, universal waste – small quantity handlers, and used oil – generators.” [Echo.EPA.gov, accessed [8/17/15](#)]

Koch Fertilizer Lobbied Against Regulations Meant To Prevent The Type Of Toxic Algae Blooms That Poisoned Drinking Water In Ohio

A TOXIC ALGAE BLOOM IN LAKE ERIE POISONED THE DRINKING WATER OF “NEARLY HALF A MILLION PEOPLE” IN TOLEDO, OHIO

“Nearly Half A Million People” In Toledo, Ohio “Were Told Not To Use Water For Drinking, Cooking, Or Bathing” Because Of A “Toxic Algae Bloom In Lake Erie.” According to National Geographic, “The toxic algae bloom in Lake Erie that provoked last weekend’s tap water ban in Toledo, Ohio—where nearly half a million people were told not to use water for drinking, cooking, or bathing—is a preview of similar problems to come around the world, scientists say, thanks in part to climate change. Northwest Ohio’s water ban was lifted Monday morning, but experts say harmful algal blooms that can turn tap water toxic and kill wildlife are becoming more common in coastal oceans and in freshwater across the United States and around the globe.” [National Geographic. [8/6/14](#)]

“Flooded By Tides Of Phosphorus Washed From Fertilized Farms, Cattle Feedlots And Leaky Septic Systems,” Lake Erie “Is Increasingly Being Choked Each Summer By Thick Mats Of Algae, Much Of It Poisonous.”

According to the New York Times, “It took a serendipitous slug of toxins and the loss of drinking water for a half-million residents to bring home what scientists and government officials in this part of the country have been saying for years: Lake Erie is in trouble, and getting worse by the year. Flooded by tides of phosphorus washed from fertilized farms, cattle feedlots and leaky septic systems, the most intensely developed of the Great Lakes is increasingly being choked each summer by thick mats of algae, much of it poisonous. What plagues Toledo and, experts say, potentially all 11 million lakeside residents, is increasingly a serious problem across the United States.” [New York Times, [8/4/14](#)]

The Toxic Algae Was Caused By Fertilizer Runoff, Koch Fertilizer Is “Among The World’s Largest Producers And Marketers Of Fertilizer

“The Algae And Bacteria Responsible For Blooms, Including The One That Created Toledo's Tap Water Mess,” Are Caused By Phosphorus And Nitrogen From Fertilizer And Septic Tanks. According to National Geographic, “The algae and bacteria responsible for blooms, including the one that created Toledo's tap water mess—a type of bacteria known as Microcystis—need warm temperatures and the nutrients phosphorus and nitrogen to grow. Microcystis is a kind of cyanobacteria, often mistakenly referred to as blue-green algae. The nitrogen and phosphorous in the runoff come from leaky septic tanks and from fertilizers used on farms and lawns.” [National Geographic, [8/6/14](#)]

Koch Fertilizer Is “Among The World’s Largest Producers And Marketers Of Fertilizer Products,” And Owns Or Has “Interests In Nitrogen Fertilizer Plants In The United States, Canada, And Trinidad And Tobago.” According to the Wichita Business Journal, “Koch Fertilizer, LLC and its subsidiaries are among the world’s largest producers and marketers of fertilizer products. Subsidiaries own or have interests in nitrogen fertilizer plants in the United States, Canada, and Trinidad and Tobago. The companies cover global demand through an extensive supply, storage and distribution system that includes terminals in the U.S., Canada, Mexico, Brazil, Australia, France and the United Kingdom. Koch Fertilizer companies offer an industry-leading portfolio of products such as the AGROTAIN®, Nexen® and Nitamin brands of high performance fertilizers, and have the capability to market and distribute more than 13 million tons of fertilizer products annually.” [Wichita Business Journal, [12/5/13](#)]

Koch Fertilizer’s Portfolio “Includes Ammonia, Urea, UAN, Phosphate, Potash And Sulfur-Based Products, In Addition To A Variety Of High-Efficiency Fertilizers And Nitrogen Stabilizers.” According to the Koch Ag and Energy website, “Koch Fertilizer, LLC and its affiliates are collectively one of the world's largest producers and marketers of fertilizers. Its product portfolio includes ammonia, urea, UAN, phosphate, potash and sulfur-based products, in addition to a variety of high-efficiency fertilizers and nitrogen stabilizers.” [KochAgEnergy.com, viewed [8/3/15](#)]

“The Phosphorus Feeds A Poisonous Algae Whose Toxin, Called Microcystin, Causes Diarrhea, Vomiting And Liver-Function Problems, And Readily Kills Dogs And Other Small Animals.” According to the New York Times, “In Lake Erie’s case, the phosphorus feeds a poisonous algae whose toxin, called microcystin, causes diarrhea, vomiting and liver-function problems, and readily kills dogs and other small animals that drink contaminated water. Toledo was unlucky: A small bloom of toxic algae happened to form directly over the city’s water-intake pipe in Lake Erie, miles offshore.” [New York Times, [8/4/14](#)]

Koch Also Owns A Majority Stake In The Mosaic Company, A Producer Of Fertilizer Made From Phosphorous And Potash

Koch Industries Also Owned A 70.49% Stake In The Mosaic Company. According to Octa Finance, “The stock price of The Mosaic Company risen 10.5% over the last 200 days, and is in strong up trend. In the last 50 and 100 days, The Mosaic Company is down 4.07% and down 4.8%, respectively. [...] Koch Industries Inc had the most significant stake with ownership of 3.17 million shares as of Q1 2015 for 70.49% of the fund’s portfolio.” [Octa Finance, [8/6/15](#)]

Mosaic Produces Fertilizer Made From Phosphorous. According to the Mosaic Company website, “Phosphorus, one of three primary crop nutrients required for plant growth, is often referred to as ‘The Energizer’ for its role in converting the sun’s energy into food, fuel and fiber. Mosaic's phosphate products, most commonly referred to as diammonium phosphate (DAP) and monommonium phosphate (MAP), are a source of phosphorus and nitrogen and provide vital crop nutrition to the global agricultural community. Mosaic’s phosphate products are created by reacting ammonia and phosphoric acid to produce a solid, granulated fertilizer. MAP and DAP can be applied directly to the soil using conventional spreading equipment. To learn more, choose a phosphate product from below.” [MosaicCo.com, viewed [8/7/15](#)]

- **The Mosaic Company “Is A Producer And Marketer Of Concentrated Phosphate And Potash Crop Nutrients.”** According to Octa Finance, “The Mosaic Company is a producer and marketer of concentrated phosphate and potash crop nutrients. The Company is a single source supplier of phosphate and potash-based crop nutrients and animal feed ingredients.” [Octa Finance, [8/6/15](#)]

The Toledo Blade Urged Gov. Kasich To “Stand Up To” Fertilizer Manufacturers Like Koch Industries

Toledo Blade Editorial: “A Half-Million People In Metropolitan Toledo Awoke To Learn That Their Drinking Water Was Poisoned.” According to an editorial by Toledo Blade editor David Kushma, “Two weekends ago, a half-million people in metropolitan Toledo awoke to learn that their drinking water was poisoned. Since then, we’ve heard lots of talk about the ‘crisis,’ the ‘emergency,’ the ‘disaster,’ the ‘wake-up call.’ We’ve watched politicians produce urgent to-do lists for others, while denying their own culpability.” [Editorial – Toledo Blade, [8/17/14](#)]

Toledo Blade Editorial: The Toxin Microcystin Tainted Toledo’s Water, Produced By Toxic Algae In Western Lake Erie. According to an editorial by Toledo Blade editor David Kushma, “We know what tainted Toledo’s water: a toxin called microcystin, which can cause liver failure. We know its source: toxic algae in western Lake Erie. We know the primary cause of these algae blooms: excessive phosphorus polluting the lake. And we know the chief source of this so-called nutrient: farm runoff from fertilizer and manure into Lake Erie and its tributaries, notably the Maumee River. We know the solution as well as the problem: Eliminate, or at least greatly reduce, the sources of phosphorus pollution. We don’t need more studies; the issue has been studied to death over decades.” [Editorial – Toledo Blade, [8/17/14](#)]

Toledo Blade Editorial: The Primary Cause Of Lake Erie’s Algae Blooms Was “Excessive Phosphorus Polluting The Lake” Chiefly From Fertilizer and Manure Runoff. According to an editorial by Toledo Blade editor David Kushma, “We know what tainted Toledo’s water: a toxin called microcystin, which can cause liver failure. We know its source: toxic algae in western Lake Erie. We know the primary cause of these algae blooms: excessive phosphorus polluting the lake. And we know the chief source of this so-called nutrient: farm runoff from fertilizer and manure into Lake Erie and its tributaries, notably the Maumee River. We know the solution as well as the problem: Eliminate, or at least greatly reduce, the sources of phosphorus pollution. We don’t need more studies; the issue has been studied to death over decades.” [Editorial – Toledo Blade, [8/17/14](#)]

Toledo Blade Editorial: Governor Kasich Should “Enact Specific Legislation To Curb Algae Growth.” According to an editorial by Toledo Blade editor David Kushma, “The prescription is to limit the nutrients that are getting into Lake Erie,” Jack Shaner, the deputy director of the Ohio Environmental Council, told me. ‘Agriculture is the least regulated of all the sources. We need the political will to fill the prescription.’ [...] Then the governor can call the General Assembly back to Columbus to enact specific legislation to curb algae growth. One such law would ban the spreading of manure on frozen or snow-covered ground — a major source of phosphorus pollution. Another would close the state’s ‘manure loophole,’ which enables large concentrated animal feeding operations to avoid state certification that their manure-management practices are appropriate.” [Editorial – Toledo Blade, [8/17/14](#)]

Toledo Blade Editorial: “Such Measures Would Require Mr. Kasich To Stand Up To Lobbies For Factory Farms And Fertilizer Manufacturers” Like Koch Industries. According to an editorial by Toledo Blade editor David Kushma, “Then the governor can call the General Assembly back to Columbus to enact specific legislation to curb algae growth. [...] Such measures would require Mr. Kasich to stand up to lobbies for factory farms and fertilizer manufacturers (Koch Industries, whose principal David Koch is a top contributor to the governor’s re-election campaign, is one of the world’s largest makers and marketers of fertilizer). If the governor is willing to do that, maybe state lawmakers — especially his fellow Republicans who control the legislature — can find their backbones as well.” [Editorial – Toledo Blade, [8/17/14](#)]

Toledo Blade Editorial: “Koch Industries, Whose Principal David Koch Is A Top Contributor To The Governor’s Re-Election Campaign, Is One Of The World’s Largest Makers And Marketers Of Fertilizer.” According to an editorial by Toledo Blade editor David Kushma, “Then the governor can call the General Assembly back to Columbus to enact specific legislation to curb algae growth. [...] Such measures would require Mr. Kasich to stand up to lobbies for factory farms and fertilizer manufacturers (Koch Industries, whose principal David Koch is a top contributor to the governor’s re-election campaign, is one of the world’s largest makers and marketers of fertilizer). If the governor is willing to do that, maybe state lawmakers — especially his fellow Republicans who control the legislature — can find their backbones as well.” [Editorial – Toledo Blade, [8/17/14](#)]

Another Algae Bloom Took Over Lake Erie In 2015 And Is Expected To Be More Severe Than 2014's Bloom

Beginning In August 2015, In Lake Erie “Another Monster Algae Bloom Grows, Fed By Nitrogen And Phosphorus-Rich Runoff.” According to the Washington post’s Capital Weather Gang, “Waves of green are rolling onshore in western Lake Erie as another monster algae bloom grows, fed by nitrogen and phosphorus-rich runoff from the farmlands in Ohio and Indiana. Scientists have been predicting trouble for western Lake Erie since early July. NOAA’s algae bloom models have been predicting this summer could deliver the most severe bloom in recent years for the lake, ‘and could become the second most severe behind the record-setting 2011 bloom.’ The algae produces a toxin called microcystin that, in early August of last year, reached such critical levels that residents in Toledo were told to not drink their water, even if they boiled it.” [Washington Post, [8/7/15](#)]

“NOAA’s Algae Bloom Models Have Been Predicting This Summer Could Deliver The Most Severe Bloom In Recent Years For The Lake.” According to the Washington post’s Capital Weather Gang, “Waves of green are rolling onshore in western Lake Erie as another monster algae bloom grows, fed by nitrogen and phosphorus-rich runoff from the farmlands in Ohio and Indiana. Scientists have been predicting trouble for western Lake Erie since early July. NOAA’s algae bloom models have been predicting this summer could deliver the most severe bloom in recent years for the lake, ‘and could become the second most severe behind the record-setting 2011 bloom.’ The algae produces a toxin called microcystin that, in early August of last year, reached such critical levels that residents in Toledo were told to not drink their water, even if they boiled it.” [Washington Post, [8/7/15](#)]

NOAA: “The Bloom Will Be Expected To Measure 8.7 On The Severity Index With A Range From 8.1 To Potentially As High As 9.5...This Is More Severe Than The Last Year’s 6.5.” According to the Washington post’s Capital Weather Gang, “The bloom will be expected to measure 8.7 on the severity index with a range from 8.1 to potentially as high as 9.5,’ NOAA said. ‘This is more severe than the last year’s 6.5, and may equal or exceed 2013, which had the second worse bloom in this century. The severity index runs from a high of 10, which corresponds to the 2011 bloom, the worst ever observed, to zero. A severity above 5.0 indicates blooms of particular concern.” [Washington Post, [8/7/15](#)]

KOCH FERTILIZER IS A MEMBER OF THE POWERFUL INDUSTRY LOBBY, THE FERTILIZER INSTITUTE

Koch Fertilizer Is A Member Of The Fertilizer Institute. According to the Fertilizer Institute’s list of members, Koch Fertilizer is a member of the Institute. [TFI.org/about, viewed [8/3/15](#)]

“Some Efforts To Control Pollution” Like Phosphorous “Have Found Powerful Opponents In Agriculture And The Fertilizer Industry,” Such As The Fertilizer Institute. According to the New York Times, “Wetlands, in particular, filter phosphorus from runoff water before it reaches rivers and lakes. A federal Environmental Protection Agency proposal to restore part of the Clean Water Act’s authority has come under fire in Congress, largely from Republicans who view it as an infringement on private rights and a threat to farmers. Some efforts to control pollution have found powerful opponents in agriculture and the fertilizer industry, which, for example, has fought limits on lawn fertilizers in Florida towns and on overall pollution of the Chesapeake Bay. The principal industry lobby, the Fertilizer Institute, is part of a coalition of industry and agricultural interests that are opposing federal efforts to restore some coverage of the Clean Water Act.” [New York Times, [8/4/14](#)]

The Fertilizer Institute Is The “The Principal Industry Lobby,” And “Part Of A Coalition Of Industry And Agricultural Interests That Are Opposing Federal Efforts To Restore Some Coverage Of The Clean Water Act.” According to the New York Times, “Some efforts to control pollution have found powerful opponents in agriculture and the fertilizer industry, which, for example, has fought limits on lawn fertilizers in Florida towns and on overall pollution of the Chesapeake Bay. The principal industry lobby, the Fertilizer Institute, is part of a coalition of industry and agricultural interests that are opposing federal efforts to restore some coverage of the Clean Water Act.” [New York Times, [8/4/14](#)]

KOCH NITROGEN WAS A MEMBER OF THE OHIO AGRIBUSINESS ASSOCIATION WHICH LOBBIED ON FERTILIZER REGULATIONS IN OHIO

Koch Nitrogen Was A Member Of The Ohio AgriBusiness Association. According to a post on the Ohio AgriBusiness Association website, “More than 300 Ohio AgriBusiness Association members, agribusiness professionals and industry stakeholders came together for the 2013 OABA Crop Production and Seed Technology Conference last week in Columbus.

OH. [...] Sponsors: Agro-Culture Liquid Fertilizers The Andersons, Inc. CHS Inc. Crop Production Services DuPont Pioneer GROWMARK, Inc. Honeywell Inc. Koch Nitrogen.” [OABA.net, viewed [8/14/15](#)]

Koch Agronomic Service Was A Member Of Ohio AgriBusiness Association’s Agronomy Education Task Force.

According to the Ohio AgriBusiness Association’s list of members of its Agronomy Education Task Force, Stephen Parrish representing Koch Agronomic Service is a member of the task force. [OABA.net, viewed [8/3/15](#)]

The Ohio AgriBusiness Association Lobbied On SB 1 “Agricultural Pollution Abatement Program” And HB 61

“Lake Erie Water Quality.” According to Ohio’s campaign finance database, the Ohio Agribusiness Association lobbied on HB 61 “Lake Erie Water Quality” and SB 1 “Agricultural Pollution Abatement Program-transfer to Department of Agriculture/applicators of fertilizer or manure-regulate/algae management and response.” [Ohio Office of the Legislative Inspector General, filed [6/8/15](#)]

- **The Ohio AgriBusiness Association Spent \$4,879 On A Reception For Legislators.** According to Ohio’s campaign finance database, the Ohio AgriBusiness Association spent \$4,879.13 on a “Legislative Reception” for all members of the Ohio General Assembly. [Ohio Office of the Legislative Inspector General, filed [6/8/15](#)]

Senate Bill 1 “Restricts Spreading Manure And Other Fertilizers That Contribute To Toxic Algae Blooms, Moves Away From Open-Lake Dumping Of Dredged Material, And Increases Monitoring At Water-Treatment Plants.”

According to the Toledo Blade, “Gov. John Kasich today signed a bill aimed at protecting Lake Erie and Ohio’s water quality. He signed Senate Bill 1 at Maumee Bay State Park in Oregon. The House and Senate on March 21 unanimously approved the bill, which restricts spreading manure and other fertilizers that contribute to toxic algae blooms, moves away from open-lake dumping of dredged material, and increases monitoring at water-treatment plants.” [Toledo Blade, [4/2/15](#)]

FERTILIZER RUNOFF CAUSED THE CITY OF COLUMBUS TO ISSUE A NITRATE ADVISORY IN 2015

The City Of Columbus In Franklin County Issued A “Nitrate Advisory” For Drinking Water In 2015. According to WOSU Radio, “The City of Columbus has issued a nitrate advisory for the Dublin Road water plant. Officials say infants under six months of age and pregnant women should not drink tap water in the affected areas which include parts of Columbus, Grandview, Hilliard and Upper Arlington.” [Radio.WOSU.org, [6/8/15](#)]

- **Columbus Public Utilities Spokesman George Zonders: High Nitrate Levels Were Caused By “Fertilizer Runoff.”** According to WOSU Radio, “Columbus Public Utilities spokesman George Zonders said high levels of nitrate in drinking water is caused from fertilizer run off, often after significant rain. ‘Eighty percent of the Dublin Road treatment watershed is agricultural. If there is a large rain event, which we had a week ago Saturday, it can get washed into the Scioto River and eventually downstream into the Dublin water plant.’” [Radio.WOSU.org, [6/8/15](#)]

Officials Warned That Infants And Pregnant Women “Should Not Drink Tap Water” Because High Levels Of Nitrates Could Cause “Blue Baby Syndrome,’ Where Vital Organs Don’t Get Enough Oxygen.” According to WOSU Radio, “Officials say infants under six months of age and pregnant women should not drink tap water in the affected areas which include parts of Columbus, Grandview, Hilliard and Upper Arlington. [...] High levels of nitrate in infants can cause ‘blue baby syndrome,’ where vital organs don’t get enough oxygen.” [Radio.WOSU.org, [6/8/15](#)]

Boiling The Water Did Not Make It Safer, And Could Actually Increase The Nitrate Concentrations. According to WOSU Radio, “Officials also advise against boiling the tap water. ‘Boiling the tap water does not reduce the nitrate levels. In anything, since it’s an inorganic compound, it’s going to increase it because it will actually be less water. And the concentration of nitrate will only increase if you boil it,’ Zonders explained. The water advisory is in effect until further notice.” [Radio.WOSU.org, [6/8/15](#)]

Koch Knight Cited By EPA In 2010

Koch Knight Engaged In The Manufacturing Of Acid Proof Solutions, Random Packing Products And Engineering, Installation And Construction Services. According to Bloomberg, “Koch Knight LLC engages in the manufacture of acid proof solutions. It offers random packing products. The company also provides engineering, installation,

and construction services. It serves mining, sulfuric acid, and chemical process industries, as well as environmental regenerative thermal oxidizer markets worldwide through a global network of manufacturing and outsourcing ceramic and plastic facilities.” [Bloomberg Business, accessed [8/17/15](#)]

Koch Knight Was Founded In 1910 And Operated As A Subsidiary Of Koch Chemical Technology Group. According to Bloomberg Business, "Koch Knight LLC was formerly known as Maurice A Knight Company. The company was founded in 1910 and is based in East Canton, Ohio. Koch Knight LLC operates as a subsidiary of Koch Chemical Technology Group, LLC." [Bloomberg Business, accessed [8/17/15](#)]

KOCH KNIGHT FAILED TO PROPERLY DISCLOSE THE EXPORTATION OF P-XYLENE FROM THEIR EAST CANTON, OHIO FACTORY TO CANADA

2010: Koch Knight Failed To Properly Disclose The Exportation Of P-Xylene From Their East Canton, Ohio Factory To Canada. According to the Enforcement Case Report on the Environmental Protection Agency’s website, “Respondent allegedly failed to provide an export notification for a shipment of p-xylene exported to Canada. Respondent failed to meet the criteria for full penalty mitigation under the self-disclosure policy.” [[Echo.EPA.gov](#), accessed [8/17/15](#)]

The East Canton Koch Knight Facility Was Assessed An \$3,676 Federal Penalty. According to the Enforcement Case Report on the Environmental Protection Agency’s website, the “Total Federal penalty Assessed or Agreed To” for the East Canton facility was \$3,676. [[Echo.EPA.gov](#), accessed [8/17/15](#)]

Xylene Can Cause “Depression Of The Central Nervous System, With Symptoms Such As Headache, Dizziness, Nausea And Vomiting.” According to Xylene: An Overview Of Its Health Hazards And Preventive Measures published in the Journal of Oral and Maxillofacial Pathology, “The main effect of inhaling xylene vapor is depression of the central nervous system, with symptoms such as headache, dizziness, nausea and vomiting. The effects listed below can begin to occur with exposure to air levels of about 100 ppm. They are reversible and become more noticeable and serious as the length of time of exposure increases. [...] Long-term exposure may lead to headaches, irritability, depression, insomnia, agitation, extreme tiredness, tremors, impaired concentration and short-term memory.” [Xylene: An Overview Of Its Health Hazards And Preventive Measures, [Jan-June 2010](#)]

Koch Industries’ Negative Impact On The Ohio Economy

AIR AND WATER POLLUTION COSTS OHIO BILLIONS OF DOLLARS

Algae Blooms In Lake Erie “Wreak Tens Of Billions Of Dollars Of Damage”

Algae Blooms In Lake Erie “Wreak Tens Of Billions Of Dollars Of Damage On Commercial Fishing And On The Recreational And Vacation Trades.” According to the New York Times, “In Lake Erie’s case, the phosphorus feeds a poisonous algae whose toxin, called microcystin, causes diarrhea, vomiting and liver-function problems, and readily kills dogs and other small animals that drink contaminated water. Toledo was unlucky: A small bloom of toxic algae happened to form directly over the city’s water-intake pipe in Lake Erie, miles offshore. Beyond the dangers to people and animals, the algae wreak tens of billions of dollars of damage on commercial fishing and on the recreational and vacation trades. With conservationists and utility officials like Mr. Moline, representatives of those industries have for years called for some way to limit the phosphorus flowing into waterways.” [New York Times, [8/4/14](#)]

“Perceptions About Lake Erie Will Affect The \$12.9 Billion In Annual Tourism Revenue For Ohio’s Eight Counties Along The Lake Erie Shoreline... A Third Of The State’s Tourism Revenue.” According to the Toledo Blade, “Larry Fletcher, executive director Lake Erie Shores & Islands, a group that promotes lake tourism in Ottawa and Erie counties, said the Toledo water crisis is really a Lake Erie issue. And that, he said, makes it an issue for all of Ohio and the Great Lakes region. Perceptions about Lake Erie will affect the \$12.9 billion in annual tourism revenue for Ohio’s eight counties along the Lake Erie shoreline. That’s a third of the state’s tourism revenue, Mr. Fletcher said.” [Toledo Blade, [8/2/15](#)]

The Perception That The “Whole Lake Is Smothered In Algae,” Has “Driven Away Ohio Business From Shoreline Areas.” According to the Toledo Blade, “Yet Melinda Huntley, the Ohio Travel Association’s executive director, said she has received many calls over the years from potential visitors in other parts of America who think the whole lake is smothered in

algae. That perception has driven away Ohio business from shoreline areas, such as Ashtabula, where Lake Erie water is likely too cold and too deep for algae to form, Ms. Huntley said.” [Toledo Blade, [8/2/15](#)]

Ohio Tops The List Of States Suffering From Industrial Pollution, Costing The State Millions

Ohio Accounted For “12 Percent Of U.S. Industrial Air Pollution.” According to Live Science, “Accounting for 12 percent of U.S. industrial air pollution, Ohio's power plants emitted 44.5 million pounds of harmful chemicals in 2009. For comparison, the 20th ranked state, Iowa, was responsible for just 1 percent of U.S. industrial air pollution, or 2.5 million pounds of harmful chemicals.” [LiveScience.com, [7/20/11](#)]

Franklin County, Ohio Received An “F” For Its Ozone Levels By The American Lung Association. According to the American Lung Association, Franklin County, Ohio received an ozone grade of “F” and a “fail” for annual particle pollution. [StateOfTheAir.org, accessed [8/11/15](#)]

Columbus Dispatch Headline: “Lung Association Flunks Franklin County For Smog Levels.” [Columbus Dispatch, [4/30/15](#)]

“Every Urban County In Ohio...Got Low Marks For Unhealthy Smog Levels.” According to the Columbus Dispatch, “The air in central Ohio is getting cleaner, but the region still has work to do, according to the American Lung Association's annual State of the Air report. Every urban county in Ohio, and many of its suburban ones, got low marks for unhealthy smog levels.” [Columbus Dispatch, [4/30/15](#)]

GEORGIA PACIFIC LAID OFF OHIO WORKERS IN BATAVIA AND CLEVELAND

Georgia Pacific Announced It Would Close Its Box Manufacturing Plant In Batavia, Ohio, And Would Lay Off The Plant's 110 Workers. According to the Cincinnati Business Courier, “Georgia-Pacific Corp. said Thursday that it will close its Batavia box manufacturing plant within about two months. The company expects to begin laying off the plant's 110 workers between April 7 and April 21, according to a filing with the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services.” [Cincinnati Business Courier, [2/7/08](#)]

GP Spokeswoman Melodie Ruske “Said ‘Market Conditions’ Contributed To The Decision To Close” The Batavia Plant. According to the Cincinnati Business Courier, “The company expects to begin laying off the plant's 110 workers between April 7 and April 21, according to a filing with the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services. Melodie Ruse, a spokeswoman for Atlanta-based Georgia-Pacific, said ‘market conditions’ contributed to the decision to close, noting that packaging is ‘a leading economic indicator’ of slowing demand in consumer and industrial markets.” [Cincinnati Business Courier, [2/7/08](#)]

Georgia-Pacific Notified 94 Employees In December 2008 They Would Be Laid Off From A Plant In Cleveland, OH. [Ohio WARN Notice, [2008](#)]

KOCH INFLUENCE ON POLICY ISSUES IN OHIO

Koch Influence On Ohio Universities

OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

“At Ohio State University, \$100,000 In Charles Koch Foundation Money Funds A Senior Lecturer Position In Its Economics Department.” According to the Center for Public Integrity, “At Ohio State University, \$100,000 in Charles Koch Foundation money funds a senior lecturer position in its economics department, university spokesman Gary D. Lewis Jr. confirmed.” [Center for Public Integrity, [3/27/14](#)]

The Koch Foundation “Pledged A Total Of \$500,000 To Ohio State University,” A \$100,000 Gift Was Donated In 2012 And 2013, And \$300,000 Was “Still Promised.” According to Ohio State University's The Lantern, “According to the Charles Koch Foundation's Form 990 tax filings for 2012 and 2013, the Koch brothers have pledged a total of \$500,000 to OSU. A \$100,000 gift has been donated in 2012 and 2013. and \$300,000 is still promised.” [The Lantern. [4/6/15](#)]

An OSU Spokesman Said That The Donation Would Cover A Senior Lecturer Of Economics' Salary And Benefits. According to Ohio State University's The Lantern, "OSU spokesman Gary Lewis said in an email that the pledged \$500,000 will cover a senior lecturer of economics' salary and benefits, and the pledge was booked in 2012." [The Lantern, [4/6/15](#)]

The Lecturer, Todd Nesbit, Taught "Approximately Eight Courses A Year In The Department On Topics Related To Economic Freedom And Competitive Markets." According to Ohio State University's The Lantern, "The instructor teaches 'approximately eight courses a year in the department on topics related to economic freedom and competitive markets, such as the history of thought, public finance, industrial organization and micro and macroeconomic principles,' [Gary] Lewis said. That instructor is senior lecturer Todd Nesbit." [The Lantern, [4/6/15](#)]

"An Extra \$42,000 Separate From The Yearly Pledge" Was Donated By The Koch Foundation From 2012 And 2013 For The "Economic Faculty Memorial" At OSU. According to Ohio State University's The Lantern, "According to the Charles Koch Foundation's Form 990 tax filings for 2012 and 2013, the Koch brothers have pledged a total of \$500,000 to OSU. A \$100,000 gift has been donated in 2012 and 2013, and \$300,000 is still promised. [...] Additionally, an extra \$42,000 separate from the yearly pledge was donated across 2012 and 2013 as a gift for the 'Economic Faculty Memorial,' [OSU spokesman Gary] Lewis said. The money is controlled by David Blau, chairman of the Department of Economics. Activities suggested by the Koch brothers include 'seminar presentations, graduate student research and travel, and faculty teaching,' Lewis added." [The Lantern, [4/6/15](#)]

OHIO UNIVERSITY

Grant Money From The Charles G. Koch Charitable Foundation Funded A Speaking Appearance By John Yoo, Author Of The Bush "Torture Memos," At Ohio University. According to the Athens News, "When Robert Ingram, director of Ohio University's George Washington Forum, signed up John Yoo for a speaking appearance tonight, he knew he was making a controversial choice. If the average person recognizes Yoo's name, after all, it's probably in connection with the so-called 'torture memos' he penned while working as a deputy assistant attorney general in the George W. Bush administration. [...] Both Ingram and Goodwin said some eyebrows have been raised over the fact that Yoo's visit is being funded by grant money from the Charles G. Koch Charitable Foundation. The foundation was started by one of the heirs to Koch Industries, a giant oil, gas, and chemical conglomerate, and is generally placed on the conservative end of the political spectrum." [Athens News, [10/28/10](#)]

Ohio University "Confirmed That Yoo Is Being Paid A \$2,000 Honorarium" From The Koch Grant. According to the Athens News, "OU spokeswoman Katie Quaranta confirmed that Yoo is being paid a \$2,000 honorarium from the grant. 'Other expenses related to his visit will be paid for by the Koch grant and in part by donations from other foundations and OU alumni,' she said." [Athens News, [10/28/10](#)]

Director of Ohio University's George Washington Forum Robert Ingram Received \$14,000 From The Charles Koch Foundation To Bring In Speakers. According to the Athens News, "[Director of Ohio University's George Washington Forum Robert] Ingram said the Koch family's political philosophy seems to him more libertarian than social-conservative, and in any case, the \$14,000 grant he got from the foundation is to bring in speakers 'of my choice, not the Kochs' choice.' He noted that a previous speaker paid from the grant was Princeton professor Harold James, who spoke on 'The World Order after the Financial Crisis,' and offered, in Ingram's words, 'sort of a Keynesian argument.'" [Athens News, [10/28/10](#)]

Ingram Said The Speakers He Chose To Bring In Using Funds From The Koch Foundation Were His "Choice, Not The Kochs' Choice." According to the Athens News, "[Director of Ohio University's George Washington Forum Robert] Ingram said the Koch family's political philosophy seems to him more libertarian than social-conservative, and in any case, the \$14,000 grant he got from the foundation is to bring in speakers 'of my choice, not the Kochs' choice.' He noted that a previous speaker paid from the grant was Princeton professor Harold James, who spoke on 'The World Order after the Financial Crisis,' and offered, in Ingram's words, 'sort of a Keynesian argument.'" [Athens News, [10/28/10](#)]

The George Washington Forum, Partially Funded By The Charles Koch Foundation Brought A Speaker Who Argued "That Corporations Have The Same Free Speech And Press Rights As People." According to Ohio University's student newspaper The Post, "An Ohio University classroom overflowed Tuesday night with students, faculty and Athens residents as the George Washington Forum welcomed its first speaker of the year. Alan Meese of the College of William and Mary gave a speech about the role of corporations in political campaigns, arguing that corporations have the same

free speech and press rights as people. [...] The event was not paid for by the university or student funds. Two private foundations — the Charles Koch Foundation and the Apgar Foundation — fund the forum and, in turn, Meese's speech, Ingram said.” [The Post, [9/18/13](#)]

UNIVERSITY OF AKRON, KENYON COLLEGE, AND CEDARVILLE UNIVERSITY

The Charles Koch Foundation Gave \$34,749 To The University Of Akron Between 2011 And 2013. According to Greenpeace, the University of Akron received \$34,749 from the Charles Koch Foundation between 2011 and 2013. [Greenpeace.org, accessed [8/7/15](#)]

- **University Of Akron Economics Professor Robert Maguire Received Three Grants From The Charles Koch Foundation Between 2011 And 2013.** According to the University of Akron website, adjunct research professor of economics Robert Maguire received grants from the Charles Koch Foundation for an undergraduate research fellowship, a graduate research fellowship, and a guest speaker program. [Uakron.edu/Economics, accessed [8/7/15](#)]

Kenyon College President Sean Decatur: Kenyon Received A Grant From The Charles Koch Foundation For Their Center For The Study Of American Democracy. According to the Kenyon Collegian, “Kenyon also receives money from some donors who may not have been associated with the College. Charles Koch, one of the Koch brothers - who have made a name for themselves as the billionaire backers of many conservative politicians and super PACs - administers a foundation that has given money to Kenyon. It may be surprising to certain members of the Kenyon community that this high-level political donor has given money to a small liberal arts college, especially one with a reputation for having a liberal student body. But this money is not political; President Sean Decatur explained that the College is a non-partisan institution, noting that a gift ‘that was promoting specific partisan activity by the College would clearly be over the line.’ As for the Charles Koch Foundation donations, ‘one was a grant for CSAD [the Center for the Study of American Democracy],’ Decatur said. ‘These are pretty clearly connected to events that are about fundamental economic issues and approached from a non-partisan way.’” [Kenyon Collegian, 2/5/15]

- **The Koch Foundation “Helped Fund The CSAD Conference Last Spring.”** According to the Kenyon Collegian, “[Vice President for College Relations Heidi] McCrory said certain gifts from the foundation helped fund the CSAD conference last spring: ‘Total gifts from the Koch brothers' foundation [are] less than \$30,000 over five years,’ according to McCrory. The Charles Koch Foundation gives money to many academic institutions; their website explains that their ‘giving supports universities and other non-profit organizations to explore the institutions that foster societal well-being.’” [Kenyon Collegian, 2/5/15]
- **The Center For The Study Of American Democracy “Seeks Open Debate Toward A Subtle Understanding Of History, Timeless Questions, And Fundamental Principles.”** According to the Center for the Study of American Democracy website, “Kenyon always has prided itself on a dedication to debating the issues of the day, no matter how controversial, through deliberative inquiry and civil, probing conversation. Drawing on this tradition, the Center for the Study of American Democracy seeks open debate toward a subtle understanding of history, timeless questions, and fundamental principles. Located in O'Connor House, the Center organizes conferences, lectures, and seminars with the goal of stimulating nonpartisan civic and political discourse. The Center also provides teaching and research opportunities for faculty and students, and promotes student internships in Washington, D.C.” [Kenyon.edu/Academics, accessed [8/7/15](#)]

Kenyon College Economics Professor William Luther Received Two Grants From The Charles Koch Foundation Between 2012 and 2013. According to Kenyon College assistant professor of economics William Luther's CV, he received two “Educational Opportunities” grants from the Charles Koch Foundation between 2012 and 2013. [William Luther CV, [8/27/14](#)]

Cedarville University's 2015 “Freedom To Flourish” Conference Was Funded By The Koch Family Foundations. According to the Cedarville University website, “Freedom to Flourish is a one-day mini-conference featuring Peter Greer of Hope International and Charles Murray of the American Enterprise Institute. Sponsored by the Cedarville University Center for Political Studies, the School of Business Administration, and the Berry Chair of Economics, this event is presented to promote awareness and understanding of the role free markets play in bettering societies and individuals in all areas of their lives. All sessions (not including the Speaker's Dinner) are free and open to the public. Funding for this event is provided by the Koch Family Foundations (kochfamilyfoundations.org).” [Cedarville.edu/event, accessed [8/7/15](#)]

Americans For Prosperity Has Been Active In Ohio

Americans For Prosperity Is “A Conservative Group Founded By The Billionaire Koch Brothers.” According to NPR, “The loudest voice taking on vulnerable Senate Democrats right now is not the Republican party, but Americans for Prosperity, a conservative group founded by the billionaire Koch brothers.” [NPR, [3/6/14](#)]

Americans For Prosperity’s Founders Were “Billionaire David Koch, And His Brother, Charles Koch.” According to the Washington Post, “Americans for Prosperity's increasing involvement in races this cycle has caught the attention of the New Yorker, which earlier this week published a lengthy investigative piece on the organization's co-founder, billionaire David Koch, and his brother, Charles Koch.” [Washington Post, [8/26/10](#)]

Ohio Gov. John Kasich: “The Strong Support Of Americans For Prosperity Has Made A Really Big Difference.” According to a video message from Gov. John Kasich posted by AFP-Ohio, “In the four months that I’ve been governor, we’ve accomplished a lot in Ohio. We’re privatizing Ohio’s economic development programs to be able to move at the speed of business. We’re cutting bureaucratic red tape with the Common Sense Initiative. And we’re bringing government union reform to Ohio. In all of these efforts, the strong support of Americans for Prosperity has made a really big difference. [...] It’s so important that Ohio’s fighters for freedom, the grassroots leaders of Americans for Prosperity, continue to lend their support to the effort to get Ohio back on track.” [AFP-Ohio Video Message via YouTube, [6/3/11](#)]

AFP-OHIO LAUNCHED IN JUNE 2006

Americans For Prosperity-Ohio Officially Launched In June 2006. According to an Americans for Prosperity-Ohio press release, “Americans for Prosperity to launch Ohio chapter on June 28. The national free-market grassroots group Americans for Prosperity will hold a media luncheon on Wednesday in Columbus to announce the launch of an Ohio chapter and the beginning of its efforts to rally grassroots opposition to out-of-control state spending. The group's first project will be to hold a series of news conferences around the state Wednesday and Thursday at the site of projects that have received state tax dollars with the goal of raising awareness about wasteful state spending.” [Americans for Prosperity Press Release, 6/27/06]

AFP-Ohio Opened A New Office In Centerville In March 2015. According to a web post from the Dayton Tea Party, “Americans for Prosperity has opened a new office in Centerville, 30 W. Rahn Rd., Suite 17, Dayton OH 45429. They will hold an open house on Monday, March 23, at 7 PM.” [DaytonOhioTeaParty.com, [3/22/15](#)]

AFP-OHIO LEADERSHIP

Ohio Deputy State Director J. Baylor Myers

J. Baylor Myers Became The Ohio Deputy State Director For Americans For Prosperity In October 2014. According to his LinkedIn profile, J. Baylor Myers became the Deputy Americans for Prosperity’s State Director in Ohio in October 2014. [LinkedIn, accessed [7/16/15](#)]

- **Myers Was Identified As AFP-Ohio’s State Director In Multiple Outlets.** According to at least three Ohio newspapers, “Baylor Myers is the Ohio state director of Americans for Prosperity.” [Dayton Daily News, [4/15/15](#); Columbus Dispatch, [4/30/15](#); Cincinnati Enquirer, [5/12/15](#)]

Myers Was The Ohio Field Director For Americans For Prosperity From July 2013 Through October 2014. According to his LinkedIn profile, J. Baylor Myers was the Ohio Field Director for Americans for Prosperity From July 2013 through October 2014. [LinkedIn, accessed [7/16/15](#)]

Myers Was Previously A Field Representative For Romney For President. According to his LinkedIn profile, J. Baylor Myers was a Field Representative for Romney for President from August 2012 through November 2012. [LinkedIn, accessed [7/16/15](#)]

Former AFP-Ohio Director Eli Miller

Eli Miller Was Named AFP-Ohio State Director In May 2013. According to an Americans for Prosperity-Ohio press release, “Americans for Prosperity – Ohio, the Buckeye State’s leading proponent of economic freedom and limited government, today welcomes new state director Eli Miller. Eli, a graduate of Case Western’s School of Business and former aide to Speaker of the House John Boehner, looks forward to working with grassroots activists across the state to advance free market, limited government policy solutions.” [Americans for Prosperity – Ohio Press Release, [5/2/13](#)]

Miller Left AFP-Ohio In January 2015 To Work As The National AFP’s Senior Regional Development Officer. According to Eli Miller’s LinkedIn profile, he was the Americans for Prosperity-Ohio state director from May 2013 until January 2015 and then American for Prosperity’s Senior Regional Development Office until June 2015. [Eli Miller – LinkedIn, accessed [7/14/15](#)]

Miller Left AFP In June 2015 To Become Deputy Finance Director For Marco Rubio For President. According to Eli Miller’s LinkedIn profile, he was American for Prosperity’s Senior Regional Development Office until June 2015 and became Marco Rubio for President’s Deputy Finance Director. [Eli Miller – LinkedIn, accessed [7/14/15](#)]

Miller Previously Worked For Speaker Of The House John Boehner And For Mitt Romney’s Presidential Campaign. According to an AFP-Ohio web post, “After receiving his MBA in 2009, Eli relocated to Washington, D.C. to work for U.S. Representative John A. Boehner from Ohio’s 8th congressional district. Over the next three years Eli was promoted to Legislative Aid and Legislative Correspondent as Boehner advanced to Speaker of the House of Representatives. In January 2012 Eli left Speaker Boehner’s staff to join Mitt Romney’s presidential campaign. Eli coordinated local campaign staff as well as volunteers to prepare for a wide variety of political events.” [AmericansForProsperity.org/Ohio, [5/2/13](#)]

Former AFP-Ohio State Director Rebecca Simpson Heimlich

Rebecca Simpson Heimlich Was The AFP-Ohio State Director From December 2009 Through November 2011. According to her LinkedIn profile, Rebecca Simpson Heimlich was the Americans for Prosperity-Ohio state director from December 2009 until November 2011. [LinkedIn, accessed [7/14/15](#)]

Heimlich Was A Registered Lobbyist For AFP In Ohio. According to the Ohio Office of the Legislative Inspector General, Rebecca Heimlich was a registered lobbyist for AFP in 2011 and John F. Boyle Jr. was an AFP lobbyist in 2009. [Office of the Legislative Inspector General, accessed [7/13/15](#)]

- **Heimlich Lobbied On Bills Regarding Collective Bargaining Revisions And The Repeal Of The Estate Tax.** According to the Ohio Office of the Legislative Inspector General, Rebecca Heimlich lobbied on bills regarding collective bargaining revisions and the repeal of the estate tax. [Ohio Office of the Legislative Inspector General, accessed [7/13/15](#)]

After Leaving AFP, Heimlich Became Ohio Campaign Manager For The American Petroleum Institute And Director Of The Ohio Energy Resource Alliance. According to the “Rebecca Heimlich for State Central Committee” Facebook page, “Rebecca Heimlich is the American Petroleum Institute (API) Ohio Campaign Manager. Heimlich is overseeing the organization’s grassroots educational outreach efforts in the Buckeye state. Heimlich is also the director of the Ohio Energy Resource Alliance, which is an alliance among the Ohio Petroleum Council (a division of API), the Ohio Oil and Gas Association, the Ohio Oil and Gas Energy Education Program, Energy In Depth, and the Buckeye Energy Forum.” [Facebook, Accessed [7/20/15](#)]

- **Heimlich Became Ohio Campaign Manager For The American Petroleum Institute In November 2011 And Ohio Energy Resource Alliance’s Director In December 2011** According to her LinkedIn profile, Heimlich became Ohio Campaign Manager for the American Petroleum Institute in November 2011 and Ohio Energy Resource Alliance’s Director in December 2011. [LinkedIn, accessed [7/14/15](#)]

January 2012: Heimlich Was “Kasich’s Candidate” For Ohio Republican Party’s The State Central Committee. According to the Cincinnati Enquirer, “Races for seats on the Democratic and Republican state central committees rarely get much attention, and are only occasionally contested. This year, though, on the Republican side, the state central committee elections are a battle for control of the Ohio Republican Party - and its millions of dollars in campaign cash. It pits the present state chairman, Kevin DeWine, versus the Republican governor, John Kasich, who wants his own man or woman at the helm of the party. State central committee members are elected by state Senate district, one woman and one man from each. Kasich is challenging DeWine loyalists in two districts locally: the 7th, which includes much of northeastern Hamilton County and

Warren County; and the 4th, which is in Butler County. There are three candidates in the 7th District: Jean Raga of Mason, the wife of former legislator and lieutenant governor candidate Tom Raga, is considered to be the DeWine candidate; Rebecca Heimlich of Loveland, who heads an oil and natural gas group and is Kasich's candidate; and Maggi Cook of Columbia Township, a tea party activist.” [Cincinnati Enquirer, [1/30/12](#)]

Competitor Maggie Cook “Said Her Job With The Associated Builders And Contractors Was Threatened If She Did Not Get Out Of A Central Committee Race To Clear The Way For Rebecca Heimlich, Kasich's Candidate.”

According to the Cleveland Plain Dealer, “Maggie Cook, a Warren County resident, said her job with the Associated Builders and Contractors was threatened if she did not get out of a central committee race to clear the way for Rebecca Heimlich, Kasich's candidate. Cook, who supported DeWine, refused to drop out and said she was fired soon after from her job as ABC's membership director, a position she likened to sales. When asked if she thinks the governor's supporters had her fired, Cook measured her words carefully. ‘I don't really know what to think because they brought a new president on, but I was in sales and it was really easy to see if you were doing your job well or not,’ Cook said. ‘I was making all my targets. I had sales metrics, monthly and quarterly goals, and I had met all of my metrics for the year. But life goes on.’ Cook says her termination letter simply states that ABC was exercising its right to terminate her as an at-will employee. She had worked for ABC from Dec. 7, 2010, to Dec. 30, 2011. Cook said she has not been contacted by the FBI.” [Cleveland Plain Dealer, [5/17/12](#)]

- **Cook “Refused To Drop Out And Said She Was Fired Soon After From Her Job As ABC's Membership Director.”** According to the Cleveland Plain Dealer, “Cook, who supported DeWine, refused to drop out and said she was fired soon after from her job as ABC's membership director, a position she likened to sales. When asked if she thinks the governor's supporters had her fired, Cook measured her words carefully. [...] Cook says her termination letter simply states that ABC was exercising its right to terminate her as an at-will employee. She had worked for ABC from Dec. 7, 2010, to Dec. 30, 2011.” [Cleveland Plain Dealer, [5/17/12](#)]
- **The FBI Investigated Kasich's Fight For Control Of The Republican Central Committee.** According to the Cleveland Plain Dealer, “Former Portage County Republican Party Chairman Andrew Manning has confirmed that he has spoken to the FBI in connection with a dispute involving allies of Gov. John Kasich over control of the Ohio Republican Party. Manning sent a sworn affidavit to the FBI earlier this year alleging that two of Kasich's allies had offered him influence within the governor's administration if he agreed to not run in the March 6 elections for the state Republican party central committee.” [Cleveland Plain Dealer, [5/17/12](#)]

Heimlich Won The Seat After Another Candidate Dropped Out Before The Election. According to the Cleveland Plain Dealer, “Heimlich eventually won that committee seat after Jean Raga, also a candidate, dropped out before the election. Raga is married to former State Rep. Tom Raga, who after the election was appointed executive director of the Dayton Power & Light Foundation.” [Cleveland Plain Dealer, [5/17/12](#)]

Heimlich Suggested Martin Luther King Would Side With AFP Against Unions. According to the Boston Globe, “The AFL-CIO, a union umbrella group, announced Friday that it was staging 20 protest rallies in 14 cities across Ohio. Most are on Monday, the anniversary of King's 1968 assassination in Memphis. About 20 states will see similar rallies, including Maine, Pennsylvania, Indiana, Missouri, Florida and Minnesota. The group noted King was supporting 1,300 striking city sanitation workers in Memphis when he was killed. [...] Rebecca Heimlich, state director of Americans for Prosperity-Ohio, a conservative advocacy group that supported the measure, argued that the bill provides workers greater freedom. She cited a provision that prohibits the collection of union dues from people who don't wish to join. ‘One thing unions are very good at, they're good at messaging,’ she said. ‘One of my frustrations is that they twist the truth... This bill is giving state employees more liberty. I don't see how Martin Luther King could disagree with that.’” [Boston Globe, [4/1/11](#)]

- **Heimlich: “I Don't See How Martin Luther King Could Disagree With” Restricting Employee Bargaining Rights.** According to the Boston Globe, “Opponents of bills in Ohio, Wisconsin and other states curtailing public employees' collective bargaining rights have planned a series of protests beginning this weekend that they're tying to the legacy of slain civil rights leader Martin Luther King Jr. [...] Rebecca Heimlich, state director of Americans for Prosperity-Ohio, a conservative advocacy group that supported the measure, argued that the bill provides workers greater freedom. She cited a provision that prohibits the collection of union dues from people who don't wish to join. ‘One thing unions are very good at, they're good at messaging,’ she said. ‘One of my frustrations is that they twist the truth ... This bill is giving state employees more liberty. I don't see how Martin Luther King could disagree with that.’” [Boston Globe, [4/1/11](#)]

Former AFP-Ohio State Director Katie Eagan

Katie Eagan Was The Ohio State Director For Americans For Prosperity. According to her LinkedIn profile, Katie Eagan was the State Director for Ohio's Americans for Prosperity chapter from January 2012 through July 2012. [LinkedIn, accessed [7/16/15](#)]

- **Eagan Became The Ohio Republican Party's Executive Director In March 2015.** According to WKRC Cincinnati, "A Tri-State native was named executive director of Ohio's Republican Party. Katie Eagan became only the second woman to hold the position. She previously served as the party's political director; the first woman to hold that position. Eagan replaced Matthew McAuliffe. She also has worked as a policy advisor to Ohio House Speaker William Batchelder. Eagan has undergraduate and graduate degrees from The Ohio State and is a graduate of Seton High School." [WKRC Cincinnati, [3/19/15](#)]

Former AFP-Ohio State Director John F. (Jack) Boyle

John F. Boyle Ran AFP's Ohio Chapter. According to the Columbus Dispatch, "The state chapter of Americans for Prosperity is leading a push for an initiated statute to repeal Ohio's estate tax, which is paid on residents' estates that are valued at \$338,333 or more after they die. The tax isn't needed and causes individuals and businesses to relocate to other states that do not have an estate tax, said John F. Boyle Jr., president of the group's Ohio chapter." [Columbus Dispatch, 9/9/09]

Boyle Was The Ohio State Director For AFP From July 2007 Through November 2009. According to his LinkedIn profile, Jack Boyle was the Americans for Prosperity-Ohio state director from July 2007 – November 2009 [LinkedIn, accessed [7/16/15](#)]

Boyle Was A Registered Lobbyist For AFP In Ohio. According to the Ohio Office of the Legislative Inspector General, Rebecca Heimlich was a registered lobbyist for AFP in 2011 and John F. Boyle Jr. was an AFP lobbyist in 2009. [Office of the Legislative Inspector General, accessed [7/13/15](#)]

John Boyle Lobbied On The State Budget. According to the Ohio Office of the Legislative Inspector General, John Boyle lobbied on the state budget. [Office of the Legislative Inspector General, accessed [7/13/15](#)]

Former AFP-Ohio Grassroots Director Jonathan Petrea

Jonathan Petrea Was Ohio Grassroots Director For Americans For Prosperity. According to ProPublica, "I was just doing a guy a favor by putting him in touch with people who might be interested," [Jonathan] Petrea said. Norris and the Mandel campaign did not respond to questions about Petrea's relationship to the Fund or the candidate. Petrea was also previously Ohio grassroots director for Americans for Prosperity, a conservative 501(c)(4) backed by the Koch brothers, and has recently done work for Energy Citizens, a group advocating oil and gas development." [ProPublica, [10/4/12](#)]

The Government Integrity Fund Listed Jonathan Petrea As A Board Member In Its Application For Tax-Exempt Status. According to ProPublica, "The [Government Integrity] Fund's application for tax-exempt status also sheds a bit more light on who is running the group. It names four men as board members, including Norris. Another of the board members, Jeffrey L. Dean, referred questions to Jonathan Petrea, who was campaign manager and district director for Mandel when he ran for the state legislature." [ProPublica, [10/4/12](#)]

- **The Government Integrity Fund Was A "Dark Money Nonprofit Group," Which Ran "More Than \$1 Million In Ads In The Ohio Race For U.S. Senate."** According to ProPublica, "A dark money nonprofit group that has run more than \$1 million in ads in the Ohio race for U.S. Senate told the IRS last year it did not plan to spend any money to influence elections when it applied for recognition of its tax-exempt status. ProPublica first reported on the group, the Government Integrity Fund, after information from television station political ad files became available online (see our Free the Files project), showing extensive spending by the Fund." [ProPublica, [10/4/12](#)]
- **"Ads Paid For By The Fund...Praised Republican Josh Mandel And Attacked Democratic Sen. Sherrod Brown."** According to ProPublica, "Ads paid for by the Fund, which ran through the summer, praised Republican Josh Mandel and attacked Democratic Sen. Sherrod Brown. One spot features Mandel telling a veterans group, 'I think this campaign is all

about the past versus the future.’ A voiceover chimes in: ‘Josh Mandel served our country with two tours in Iraq. Now he’s fighting for taxpayers, fighting for our future.’” [ProPublica, [10/4/12](#)]

AFP-OHIO’S DEFENDING THE AMERICAN DREAM SUMMIT

AFP Announced That Sen. Rob Portman And Rep. Jim Jordan Would Be Featured At Its “Defending The American Dream Summit,” Calling Portman A “Free-Market Champion”

Sen. Rob Portman And Sen. Ted Cruz Were Announced As Featured Speakers At AFP’s Defending The American Dream Summit In Ohio In August 2015. According to The Columbus Dispatch, “Texas Sen. Ted Cruz will bring his presidential campaign to Columbus in August to Americans for Prosperity’s ‘signature annual event,’ the Defending the American Dream Summit. Cruz and Ohio Sen. Rob Portman will be the featured speakers at the Greater Columbus Convention Center for the gathering, funded by GOP megadonors David and Charles Koch.” [Columbus Dispatch, [6/8/15](#)]

AFP-Ohio’s Luke Hilgemann: “We’re Looking Forward To An Opportunity To Celebrate Victories, Regroup For The Year Ahead, And Hear From Free-Market Champions Like Senators Cruz And Portman.” According to The Columbus Dispatch, “‘We’re looking forward to an opportunity to celebrate victories, regroup for the year ahead, and hear from free-market champions like Senators Cruz and Portman, who will talk to us about their plans to keep freedom on the march in the heartland and across the country,’ the group’s [AFP-Ohio’s] chief executive officer, Luke Hilgemann, in a release.” [Columbus Dispatch, [6/8/15](#)]

AFP Announced That Rep. Jim Jordan Is Scheduled To Speak At AFP’s “Defending The American Dream Summit” In August 2015. According to an Americans for Prosperity web post, “Americans for Prosperity announced today that Florida Senator Marco Rubio and Ohio Representative Jim Jordan will address attendees of the group’s signature annual event, the Defending the American Dream Summit®, held in Columbus on August 21 and 22. The conference brings the grassroots together with thought leaders and elected officials in a shared commitment to greater economic freedom for every American.” [AmericansForProsperity.org/article, [7/13/15](#)]

- **AFP: Jim Jordan Has “Been A Leader In The Fight Against The Export-Import Bank.”** According to an Americans for Prosperity web post, “Jordan has also been a leader in the fight against the Export-Import Bank from his perch atop the House Freedom Caucus.” [AmericansForProsperity.org/article, [7/13/15](#)]
- **Rep. Jordan Received A “100 Percent, A+ Rating” From Americans For Prosperity In 2013.** According to the Lima News, “U.S. Rep. Jim Jordan, R-Urbana, was one of 18 House members to receive a 100 percent, A+ rating from the Americans for Prosperity free market scorecard. [...] The 112th Congress Scorecard includes votes on such issues as the repeal of President Barack Obama’s new health care law, preempting EPA’s purported authority to regulate greenhouse gases, House Budget Committee Chairman Paul Ryan’s budget, ending ethanol subsidies, several Congressional Review Act resolutions to overturn new regulations, and the fiscal year 2012 appropriations bills.” [Lima News, 2/24/13]

Gov. Jeb Bush And Sen. Ted Cruz Were Scheduled To Speak At The Summit

Gov. Jeb Bush And Sen. Ted Cruz, Were Scheduled To Speak At AFP’s Defending the American Dream Summit. According to a web post from AFP, “Governor Jeb Bush joins a lineup that includes Ohio Senator Rob Portman, Texas Senator Ted Cruz, Texas Governor Rick Perry, and FCC Commissioner Ajit Pai. The Defending the American Dream Summit will be held on August 21 and 22 at the Greater Columbus Convention Center.” [AmericansForProsperity.org/article, [6/22/15](#)]

Koch’s ALEC Has “Policymaking Influence” In Ohio

KOCH TIES TO THE AMERICAN LEGISLATIVE EXCHANGE COUNCIL (ALEC)

Center for Public Integrity: “The Koch Brothers Have Decades-Long Connections With ALEC,” Gave Brothers Award In 1994. According to the Center for Public Integrity: “The Koch brothers have decades-long connections with ALEC, which gave the brothers the Adam Smith Free Enterprise Award in 1994.” [Center for Public Integrity, [1/31/13](#)]

Koch Industries Has Donated “An Untold Amount” To ALEC And Chaired ALEC's Corporate Board. According to the Center for Media and Democracy, “Research from CMD and GreenPeacedocuments that the Koch foundations have given ALEC at least \$600,000 in the past decade or so, and Koch Industries has donated an untold amount. The Kochs also bailed out ALEC with a loan of nearly half a million dollars in the late 1990s. Koch Industries has also chaired ALEC's corporate board and has had a seat on its board for over a decade. Plus, another subsidy unaccounted for by ALEC is the money corporations like Koch have spent on having the head of its lobbying arm involved in ALEC's leadership as well as whatever amount of time the company spends crafting ALEC ‘model’ legislation.” [Center for Media and Democracy, [7/13/11](#)]

One Of ALEC's “Long-Term Liabilities” In 1998 Included A \$400,000 Loan From The Koch Foundation. According to ALEC's 1998 Business Plan, “Entering 1998, ALEC's unaudited balance sheet is currently estimated to reflect \$1,727,890 in current assets, including cash of \$1,300,000, and \$1,266,357 in current liabilities, including accounts payable of \$600,000, state scholarships of \$368,546, a line of credit for \$150,000, and the current portion of certain equipment lease obligations totaling \$72,000 . The long-term liabilities total \$700,000 and include \$440,000 to the Koch Foundation, \$70,000 to the Tax Education Support Organization, deferred rent liability of \$92,000, and the non-current portion of certain equipment lease obligations, totaling \$72,000.” [ALEC, [11/24/97](#)]

OHIO GOVERNOR JOHN KASICH WAS “INVOLVED WITH ALEC IN ITS FORMATIVE YEARS.”

Governor John Kasich Was “Involved With ALEC In Its Formative Years.” According to ALEC's website, “In September 1973, state legislators, including then Illinois State Rep. Henry Hyde, Paul Weyrich, and Lou Barnett, a veteran of then Gov. Ronald Reagan's 1968 presidential campaign, together with a handful of others, launched the American Legislative Exchange Council. Among those who were involved with ALEC in its formative years were: Robert Kasten and Tommy Thompson of Wisconsin; John Engler of Michigan; Terry Branstad of Iowa, and John Kasich of Ohio, all of whom moved on to become governors or Members of Congress.” [ALEC.org, accessed [7/17/15](#)]

Columbus Free Press Editor Bob Fittrakis: Gov. John Kasich “Really Listens To...The American Legislative Exchange Council.” According to an opinion by Columbus Free Press editor Bob Fittrakis for Alternet, “Who [Ohio Gov. John] Kasich really listens to is the American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC). More than three decades ago, this corporate front masquerading as an advocate for ‘limited government’ and ‘free markets’ began plotting to make the 1 percent richer and steal the wealth of our nation's working class. ALEC lists among its key founders Paul Weyrich, who openly advocates suppressing poor and minority voters, as well as the white supremacist, the late Senator Jesse Helms. Also on the ALEC website there's a note stating ‘Among those who are involved with ALEC in the formative years were ... John Kasich of Ohio.’ ALEC, now primarily funded by the notorious Koch Brothers, provided Senate Bill 5 as its model legislation and its legislation is a manual for destroying worker's rights under the guise of ‘saving taxpayers money.’” [Bob Fittrakis – Alternet, [8/7/15](#)]

Fittrakis: “ALEC, Now Primarily Funded By The Notorious Koch Brothers, Provided Senate Bill 5 As Its Model Legislation And Its Legislation Is A Manual For Destroying Worker's Rights.” According to an opinion by Columbus Free Press editor Bob Fittrakis for Alternet, “Who Kasich really listens to is the American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC). More than three decades ago, this corporate front masquerading as an advocate for ‘limited government’ and ‘free markets’ began plotting to make the 1 percent richer and steal the wealth of our nation's working class. ALEC lists among its key founders Paul Weyrich, who openly advocates suppressing poor and minority voters, as well as the white supremacist, the late Senator Jesse Helms. Also on the ALEC website there's a note stating ‘Among those who are involved with ALEC in the formative years were ... John Kasich of Ohio.’ ALEC, now primarily funded by the notorious Koch Brothers, provided Senate Bill 5 as its model legislation and its legislation is a manual for destroying worker's rights under the guise of ‘saving taxpayers money.’” [Bob Fittrakis – Alternet, [8/7/15](#)]

Fittrakis: Six Months Before Kasich Signed S.B. 310, Freezing Ohio's Renewable Energy Standards For 2 Years, David Koch Donated The Legal Maximum Of \$12,155 To His Campaign. According to an opinion by Columbus Free Press editor Bob Fittrakis for Alternet, “In June 2014, Kasich signed the controversial Senate Bill 310 that froze Ohio's renewable energy and energy efficiency standards at their present levels for two years. [...] Six weeks prior to Kasich signing S.B. 310, oil magnate David Koch donated \$12,155 to Kasich's re-election campaign – the maximum allowed under law.” [Bob Fittrakis – Alternet, [8/7/15](#)]

Senior Members Of Gov. John Kasich's Administration, Including Interim Ohio EPA Director Craig Butler, Attended A Republican Governors' Conference Along With Representatives From Koch Companies. According to the Cincinnati Enquirer, "Senior members of Gov. John Kasich's administration attended a Republican Governors' conference with corporate titans and lobbyists who donated tens of thousands of dollars to the Republican Governors Association and an affiliated group, according to documents published Wednesday by the New York Times. The RGA pitched such events as a chance for donors to get access to GOP governors and their top aides, according to the documents, leading some good-government groups to criticize it as a pay-for-access scheme. Among those who attended the retreat, held in California in July 2013, were Kimberly Kutschbach, a cabinet secretary in the Kasich administration, and Craig Butler, the interim director of Ohio's Environmental Protection Agency, according to the documents. Representatives from more than two dozen companies that gave the RGA at least \$250,000 each also attended, including Aetna, WalMart, and Koch Companies Private Sector. Another 40 companies gave at least \$100,000, including Hewlett-Packard Co., Marathon Oil Corp., and Verizon." [Cincinnati Enquirer, [9/26/14](#)]

- **"The RGA Pitched Such Events As A Chance For Donors To Get Access To GOP Governors And Their Top Aides."** According to the Cincinnati Enquirer, "Senior members of Gov. John Kasich's administration attended a Republican Governors' conference with corporate titans and lobbyists who donated tens of thousands of dollars to the Republican Governors Association and an affiliated group, according to documents published Wednesday by the New York Times. The RGA pitched such events as a chance for donors to get access to GOP governors and their top aides, according to the documents, leading some good-government groups to criticize it as a pay-for-access scheme." [Cincinnati Enquirer, [9/26/14](#)]

OHIO LEGISLATION HAS BEEN BASED ON ALEC "MODEL" BILLS

People For The American Way: "A Side-By-Side Comparison Of Nine ALEC 'Model' Bills And Actual Ohio Legislation" Showed "ALEC's Policymaking Influence." According to a People for the American Way press release, "A new report released today by People For the American Way Foundation, Common Cause, the Center for Media and Democracy and Progress Ohio reveals the deep ties between the American Legislative Ex-change Council (ALEC) and Ohio's legislature. Through a side-by-side comparison of ALEC legislative models and actual Ohio bills, the report shows how Ohio's legislators are working in tandem with corporate leaders to deregulate key industries, privatize education and dismantle unions. [...] The report demonstrates ALEC's policymaking influence with an in-depth analysis of the organization's ties to key Ohio lawmakers, as well as a side-by-side comparison of nine ALEC 'model' bills and actual Ohio legislation." [People for the American Way Press Release via Targeted News Service, 2/6/12]

- **People For The American Way: ALEC's Influence Included "Diminishing Public Education Through Private School Voucher Programs" And "Measures To Prevent Implementation Of Health Care Reform."** According to a People for the American Way press release, "The report demonstrates ALEC's policymaking influence with an in-depth analysis of the organization's ties to key Ohio lawmakers, as well as a side-by-side comparison of nine ALEC 'model' bills and actual Ohio legislation, including: Attacks on workers by severely limiting collective bargaining, eliminating public employment through out-sourcing and privatizing government functions; Diminishing public education through private school voucher programs and private scholarship tax credits; Encouraging the privatization of state prisons to benefit the private prison industry; Voter suppression bills designed to disenfranchise thousands of eligible Americans; Draconian anti-immigrant measures that criminalize undocumented workers and penalize their employers; Creation of barriers for consumers and injured parties in seeking justice from corporations in a court of law; Measures to prevent implementation of health care reform." [People for the American Way Press Release via Targeted News Service, 2/6/12]

Ohio State Senator Bill Seitz Sits On The ALEC Board And Has Received Significant Campaign Contributions From ALEC-Affiliated Companies. According to The Huffington Post, "Ohio state Sen. Bill Seitz, an ALEC board member, is a case in point. A Republican lawyer from Cincinnati, Seitz received more than \$70,000 from coal, oil and gas, and utility companies in the 2008 and 2012 election cycles. Half of that money came from two Ohio-based utilities that rely heavily on coal: American Electric Power, an ALEC member headquartered in Columbus, gave him \$21,500, and the Akron-based FirstEnergy contributed \$15,000. Ashland Oil, BP North America, Dominion, Duke Energy, Marathon Oil and Spectra Energy -- all ALEC members -- also donated to his campaigns." [Huffington Post, [12/22/14](#)]

- **Seitz Is Also The Chairman Of The Senate Public Utilities Committee And "Has Been Leading The Effort To Gut" Ohio's Renewable Energy Standards.** According to The Huffington Post, "Chairman of the Senate Public

Utilities Committee, Seitz has been leading the effort to gut Ohio's energy efficiency and renewable energy standards, which, compared to those in other states, are relatively modest.” [Huffington Post, [12/22/14](#)]

Rep. Bill Seitz Sponsored An ALEC-Based Legal Reform Bill. According to the Cincinnati Enquirer, “A move to make Ohio the latest to cap what the state can pay outside lawyers in contingency-fee contracts passed the Senate this week over objections from Democrats and lawyers groups. The business-backed bill would set attorney-payment caps on a sliding scale, starting at 25 percent of damages up to \$10 million and ending with 5 percent of damages that exceed \$25 million. Sen. Bill Seitz, the sponsor of Senate Bill 38, suggested that paying a law firm more than \$4 million for a \$25 million judgment is plenty. [...] Ohio's Transparency in Private Attorney Contracts Act is similar to laws passed in 14 states, including Indiana. The American Legislative Exchange Council, a conservative organization that brings together law-makers and business leaders to write model legislation, has called for contingency-fee caps in legislation called the Private Attorney Retention Sunshine Act.” [Cincinnati Enquirer, 3/20/15]

“Six Ohio Lawmakers Signed Onto A Letter Admonishing Google” For Cutting Ties With ALEC. According to Cleveland.com, “Six Ohio lawmakers signed onto a letter admonishing Google for cutting financial support of conservative policy group ALEC and for accusing the organization of denying climate change. ALEC members wrote in the letter that Google's decision was ‘based on misinformation from climate activists who intentionally confuse free market policy perspectives for climate change denial.’ Of the 150 signees, six are sitting Ohio lawmakers: Sen. Bill Seitz of Cincinnati, Rep. Lou Terhar of Cincinnati, Rep. Terry Boose of Norwalk, Rep. Andy Thompson of Marietta, Rep. Andrew Brenner of Powell, and Rep. John Adams of Sidney. All are Republicans.” [Cleveland.com, [10/1/14](#)]

- **Rep. Louis Terhar Is A State Chairman For ALEC.** According to the ALEC website, Rep. Louis Terhar is an Ohio state chair. [ALEC.org, accessed [7/28/15](#)]

Ohio Passed An “Anti-Obamacare Amendment” That The “American Legislative Exchange Council Helped To Advance.” According to the National Journal, “Alabama, Arizona, Ohio, Oklahoma, and Wyoming have passed anti-Obamacare amendments, according to the National Conference of State Legislatures. And more than 1 million people in those five states would lose tax credits if the high court rules against the Obama administration later this year, according to estimates from the Kaiser Family Foundation. The state amendments, which the conservative advocacy group American Legislative Exchange Council helped to advance, don't say anything specific about establishing an exchange. But read between the lines, and the states could run into yet another round of Obamacare lawsuits if they try to sidestep the court's decision.” [National Journal, 3/2/15]

- **The Ohio Legislation Mandates That “No Federal, State, Or Local Law Or Rule Shall Compel...Any Person, Employer, Or Health Care Provider To Participate In A Health Care System.”** According to Forbes, “Ohioans overwhelmingly rejected the healthcare mandate provisions of Obamacare. They did this by handily passing an amendment to the state's constitution that reads, in part, as follows: ‘No federal, state, or local law or rule shall compel, directly or indirectly, any person, employer, or health care provider to participate in a health care system.’” [Forbes, [11/9/11](#)]
- **“The State Amendment Will Have No Actual, Legal Impact On The Affordable Care Act.”** According to Forbes, “Due to Article VI of the United States Constitution, better known as the ‘Supremacy Clause’, the state amendment will have no actual, legal impact on the Affordable Care Act as the measure will never survive the inevitable legal challenge. The Supremacy Clause makes it more than clear that when a conflict exists between a federal law and a state law, the federal law will control. Assuming the Obamacare mandate survives the coming review by the United States Supreme Court, Ohio will be required to participate, whether they like it or not.” [Forbes, [11/9/11](#)]

Other Koch Groups That Have Been Active In Ohio

CONCERNED VETERANS FOR AMERICA

CVA CEO Pete Hegseth Told Attendees Of A Koch Organized Summit That “Concerned Veterans For America Is An Organization This Network Literally Created.” According to a speech Pete Hegseth gave at a Koch brothers' summit, “Concerned Veterans for America is an organization this network literally created.” [Pete Hegseth Speech – Koch Brothers' Summit via YouTube, [6/16/14](#)]

- **Hegseth: “I Thank Charles And David” For Making CVA Possible.** According to a speech Pete Hegseth gave at a Koch brothers’ summit, “I thank Charles and David [...] everyone that puts in the sweat equity that makes this possible.” [Pete Hegseth Speech – Koch Brothers’ Summit via YouTube, [6/16/14](#)]

Concerned Veterans Of America Stated Its Mission Is “To Advocate For Policies That Will Preserve The Freedom And Prosperity That We And Our Families So Proudly Fought And Sacrificed To Defend.” According to the Concerned Veterans for America’s website, “Simply put, CVA’s mission is to advocate for policies that will preserve the freedom and prosperity that we and our families so proudly fought and sacrificed to defend. The goal of Concerned Veterans for America is to translate the experience, concerns and hopes unique to veterans and their families into a common vision of freedom. We apply this unique perspective to speak out on issues that threaten to cripple not only our economic and national security, but the spirit of opportunity and liberty that all Americans cherish.” [CV4A.org, Accessed [5/1/15](#)]

CVA Ohio State Director Richard Youngblood

Richard Youngblood Is CVA’s Ohio State Director. According to the Concerned Veterans for America website, “Richard Youngblood, Ohio State Director at Concerned Veterans for America, has been a dedicated supporter of our military and veterans for over 20 years. Richard has owned The Conservative Campaign Group for 15 years, a group that specializes in campaign management.” [CV4A.org, viewed [8/17/15](#)]

Youngblood “Directed The Northeast Ohio Operation For Citizens For Community Values Action.” According to the Concerned Veterans for America website, “Richard Youngblood, Ohio State Director at Concerned Veterans for America, has been a dedicated supporter of our military and veterans for over 20 years. Richard has owned The Conservative Campaign Group for 15 years, a group that specializes in campaign management. His results have earned him the reputation as being one of the top political consultants in Ohio. During the 2012 presidential campaign, Richard directed the northeast Ohio operation for Citizens for Community Values Action.” [CV4A.org, viewed [8/17/15](#)]

- **“Citizens For Community Values (CCV) Exists To Promote Judeo-Christian Moral Values, And To Reduce Destructive Behaviors Contrary To Those Values.”** According to the Citizens for Community Values website, “Citizens for Community Values (CCV) exists to promote Judeo-Christian moral values, and to reduce destructive behaviors contrary to those values, through education, active community partnership, and individual empowerment at the local, state and national levels.” [CCV.org, viewed [8/17/15](#)]
- **President Of CCV Phil Burress “Spearheaded The 2004 Ohio Gay Marriage Ban,” And Denounced The Supreme Court Ruling Legalizing Gay Marriage, Calling It A “Travesty.”** According to the Cincinnati Enquirer, “Same-sex marriage opponents denounced the Supreme Court’s ruling to legalize gay marriage on Friday, with some officials even refusing to start issuing licenses. [...] But most same-sex marriage opponents, especially politicians, accepted the ruling, saying there wasn’t much they could do about it, even if they did oppose the decision. ‘This is a travesty,’ said Phil Burress, president of Citizens for Community Values, the Sharonville group that spearheaded the 2004 Ohio gay marriage ban. ‘The Supreme Court has no business interfering in states’ rights issues.’” [Cincinnati Enquirer, [6/26/15](#)]

60 PLUS ASSOCIATION

60 Plus Association Is “Funded Largely By Billionaire Businessmen Charles And David Koch’s Conservative Political Network.” According to the Center for Public Integrity: “The 60 Plus Association — a nonprofit senior citizen advocacy group funded largely by billionaire businessmen Charles and David Koch’s conservative political network — appears to have vastly understated its level of election spending on federal tax filings, a Center for Public Integrity review of documents indicates.” [Center for Public Integrity, [7/30/14](#)]

60 Plus: We Are “Often Viewed As The Conservative Alternative To The” AARP. According to 60 Plus’ website, “Founded in 1992, the 60 Plus Association is a non-partisan seniors advocacy group with a free enterprise, less government, less taxes approach to seniors issues. 60 Plus has set ending the federal estate tax and saving Social Security for the young as its top priorities. 60 Plus is often viewed as the conservative alternative to the American Association of Retired Persons (AARP).” [60Plus.org, accessed [7/16/13](#), emphasis removed]

GENERATION OPPORTUNITY

Generation Opportunity Is “Part Of The Billionaire Koch Brothers-Funded Empire Of Independent Groups Seeking To Influence Public Policy In A More Free-Market Direction.” According to The Atlantic, “Both Generation Opportunity and Americans for Prosperity are part of the billionaire Koch brothers-funded empire of independent groups seeking to influence public policy in a more free-market direction.” [The Atlantic, [9/19/13](#)]

Generation Opportunity Raised “Almost 86 Percent Of Its Funds From Just Two Koch-Linked Nonprofits.” According to the Center for Responsive Politics, “In the three years for which tax information is available, Generation Opportunity has raised almost 86 percent of its funds from just two Koch-linked nonprofits.” [OpenSecrets.org, [5/13/14](#)]

GenOpp Branded Itself As A “Nonprofit Organization Committed To Helping Young People Improve Their Lives.” According to the mission statement on Generation Opportunity’s website, “Generation Opportunity is a nonprofit organization committed to helping young people improve their lives.” [GenerationOpportunity.org, Accessed [4/23/15](#)]

Koch Opposition To Renewable Energy In Ohio

THE KOCHS ARE RISKING THE ECONOMIC HEALTH OF OHIO BECAUSE “THEY SEE SOLAR AND WIND ENERGY AS A LONG-TERM THREAT TO THEIR BUSINESSES”

New York Times Editorial: The Kochs’ “Motivation” To Fight Incentives For Renewable Energy “Is Clear: They See Solar And Wind Energy As A Long-Term Threat To Their Businesses.” According to an editorial by the New York Times, “For the last few months, the Kochs and other big polluters have been spending heavily to fight incentives for renewable energy, which have been adopted by most states. [...] The coal producers’ motivation is clear: They see solar and wind energy as a long-term threat to their businesses. That might seem distant at the moment, when nearly 40 percent of the nation’s electricity is still generated by coal, and when less than 1 percent of power customers have solar arrays. (It is slightly higher in California and Hawaii.) But given new regulations on power-plant emissions of mercury and other pollutants, and the urgent need to reduce global warming emissions, the future clearly lies with renewable energy. In 2013, 29 percent of newly installed generation capacity came from solar, compared with 10 percent in 2012.” [Editorial – New York Times, [4/26/14](#)]

Most Of Charles And David Koch’s Wealth Comes “From Fossil Fuel-Related Industries.” According to NPR, “Conservative billionaires Charles G. and David H. Koch, much of whose wealth comes from fossil fuel-related industries, unveiled their plan earlier this year to spend \$889 million in the 2016 elections through their group Americans for Prosperity. This amount would dwarf what either of the presidential candidates raised in the 2012 general election, according to data from the Center for Responsive Politics.” [NPR, [8/11/15](#)]

New York Times Editorial: Campaigns To “Eliminate Or Scale Back” Renewable Power “Is Really About The Profits Of Koch Carbon And The Utilities.” According to an editorial by the New York Times, “Twenty-nine states have established similar standards that call for 10 percent or more in renewable power. These states can now anticipate well-financed campaigns to eliminate these targets or scale them back. [...] Another Koch ad likens the renewable-energy requirement to health care reform, the ultimate insult in that world. ‘Like Obamacare, it’s another government mandate we can’t afford,’ the narrator says. That line might appeal to Tea Partiers, but it’s deliberately misleading. This campaign is really about the profits of Koch Carbon and the utilities, which to its organizers is much more important than clean air and the consequences of climate change.” [Editorial – New York Times, [4/26/14](#)]

KOCH GROUPS SUPPORTED AN OHIO BILL TO “PLACE A TWO-YEAR FREEZE” ON RENEWABLE ENERGY STANDARDS

Ohio Froze Its Renewable Energy Standards For Two Years Following A Bill Pushed By AFP And ALEC And Signed By Gov. John Kasich. According to EcoWatch, “Last year, Ohio became the first state in the country to backpedal from its 2008 renewable energy standards last June when Governor John Kasich signed the bill that froze the standards for two years. That bill, SB 310, was pushed by—guess who!—Americans for Prosperity and ALEC.” [EcoWatch, [3/27/15](#)]

New York Times Editorial: The Kochs And ALEC Are “Trying To Repeal Or Freeze Ohio’s Requirement That 12.5 Percent Of The State’s Electric Power Come From Renewable Sources Like Solar And Wind By 2025.” According to

an editorial by the New York Times, “As The Los Angeles Times reported recently, the Kochs and ALEC have made similar efforts in other states, though they were beaten back by solar advocates in Kansas and the surtax was reduced to \$5 a month in Arizona. But the Big Carbon advocates aren’t giving up. The same group is trying to repeal or freeze Ohio’s requirement that 12.5 percent of the state’s electric power come from renewable sources like solar and wind by 2025. Twenty-nine states have established similar standards that call for 10 percent or more in renewable power. These states can now anticipate well-financed campaigns to eliminate these targets or scale them back.” [Editorial – New York Times, [4/26/14](#)]

Americans For Prosperity Supported The Ohio Bill To “Place A Two-Year Freeze” On Renewable Energy Standards. According to The Columbus Dispatch, “The Ohio bill would place a two-year freeze on annual increases in standards for renewable energy and energy efficiency. It also would repeal a rule that says utilities must buy half of their renewable energy from in-state sources and would make it easier for utilities to buy low-cost hydroelectric power and count it toward the standards. [...] Yesterday, Americans for Prosperity issued a statement supporting the Ohio bill. The national conservative group, financed in part by billionaires David and Charles Koch, has supported similar proposals in other states but has not been active on the Ohio plan until now.” [Columbus Dispatch, [5/20/14](#)]

- **“The American Legislative Exchange Council, Or ALEC, And Americans For Prosperity Are Helping To Push For Change In The Rules.”** According to the Columbus Dispatch, “Many of the same groups with an interest in the subject are active in multiple states. The American Wind Energy Association, Sierra Club and others are fighting to maintain rules that say utilities must obtain a certain amount of their energy from renewable sources. Meanwhile, the American Legislative Exchange Council, or ALEC, and Americans for Prosperity are helping to push for change in the rules.” [Columbus Dispatch, [5/20/14](#)]

AFP-Ohio State Director Eli Miller: SB 310, The Bill To Freeze Renewable Energy Standards, “Is The Right Thing To Do To Protect Ohio’s Consumers And Business Owners.” According to an AFP-Ohio press release, “Americans for Prosperity – Ohio issued the following statement in support of SB 310, which will freeze the state’s renewable energy standards for two years. The bill was passed by the Ohio House today. ‘Passing SB 310 is the right thing to do to protect Ohio’s consumers and business owners from higher energy prices,’ said Eli Miller, Americans for Prosperity Ohio State Director. ‘These standards have proven to be unrealistic. The legislature has done the right thing by voting to temporarily freeze these standards so that the economic well-being of our working families and businesses can be factored in before moving forward.’” [AFP-Ohio Press Release, [5/28/14](#)]

- **Miller: Renewable Energy Standards Are A “Potential Impediment To Job Creation And Job Growth Here In The Buckeye State.”** According to The New York Times, “As renewable energy production has surged in recent years, opponents of government policies that have helped spur its growth have pushed to roll back those incentives and mandates in state after state. On Wednesday, they claimed their first victory, when Ohio lawmakers voted to freeze the phasing-in of power that utilities must buy from renewable energy sources. The bill, which passed the Ohio House of Representatives, 54 to 38, was expected to be signed into law by Gov. John R. Kasich, who helped negotiate its final draft. [...] Eli Miller, Americans for Prosperity’s Ohio state director, backed by the billionaire industrialists David H. and Charles G. Koch, called the proposed law ‘a prudent step’ to re-examine standards that could be a ‘potential impediment to job creation and job growth here in the Buckeye State.’” [New York Times, [5/28/14](#)]

AFP And ALEC’s “Efforts To Repeal Or Weaken Renewable-Energy Mandates” Failed In Eight States But Saw A “Major Success” In Ohio. According to the National Journal, “If Woodhouse was shocked then, he shouldn’t be now. AFP and ALEC have been denied satisfaction all over America. In Kansas, Russ Jennings thwarted the spring push to repeal the state’s standard. In 2014 alone, efforts to repeal or weaken renewable-energy mandates also failed to advance in Arizona, Colorado, Maine, Missouri, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, and Washington. The coalition’s only major success so far this year was in Ohio, where—with just a minimal advocacy push—a bill to freeze the state’s mandate won passage.” [National Journal, [11/22/14](#)]

“Koch-Backed Groups Gave Their Blessing” To The Measure To Freeze Ohio’s Renewable Energy Mandate. According to the National Journal, “The coalition’s only major success so far this year was in Ohio, where—with just a minimal advocacy push—a bill to freeze the state’s mandate won passage. Koch-backed groups gave their blessing to the measure before it was signed into law in June. But AFP was absent from the lobbying effort that secured the legislation’s passage, largely because the organization had chosen to focus its attention on Kansas and North Carolina, where it looked as if repeal had a better chance. Then, this spring, to the surprise of political onlookers in the state, Ohio-based utility FirstEnergy muscled a freeze bill through the Legislature.” [National Journal, [11/22/14](#)]

The Ohio Bill To Freeze Renewable Energy Standards “Followed A Standard Pattern” That Included ALEC Legislation, Research From The “Institutes In The Koch Brothers’ Network,” And “A Boost” From Americans For Prosperity. According to The Nation, “The campaign against renewable standards in Ohio followed a standard pattern. Armed with model legislation, conservative lawmakers like state senators Bill Seitz and Kris Jordan— both members of ALEC—argued against renewables using economic analyses produced by research institutes in the Koch brothers’ network—in particular, the Beacon Hill Institute at Massachusetts’s Suffolk University. Then the legislation received a boost from outside groups including Americans for Prosperity (another Koch affiliate) and American Energy Alliance, an advocacy group that has received funding from the Kochs and ExxonMobile.” [The Nation, [5/29/14](#)]

Ohio Passed Legislation That Would “Lessen The Effectiveness” Of Renewable Portfolio Standards By Allowing Power From Certain Combined Heat And Power Facilities “To Count Toward Meeting The State’s Standard.”

According to Bloomberg, “At least 19 bills were introduced in 2012 — five that would have repealed or frozen state renewable portfolio standards and 14 that would have weakened them – according to information released Oct. 24 by the North Carolina Solar Center and the Interstate Renewable Energy Council. Of those, only three measures seen as lessening the effectiveness of the standards were approved in Ohio, New Hampshire, and Virginia, according to the groups, which jointly administer the Energy Department-funded Database of State Incentives for Renewables & Efficiency (DSIRE). The legislation passed in Ohio, for instance, allows power from certain combined heat and power (CHP) facilities and waste heat recovery systems to count toward meeting the state’s standard, according to DSIRE.” [Bloomberg, [10/25/12](#)]

- **Americans For Prosperity Was “Among The Groups Have Pledged To Continue Efforts Opposing State Renewable Portfolio Standards.”** According to Bloomberg BNA, “Among the groups have pledged to continue efforts opposing state renewable portfolio standards is Americans for Prosperity, a group founded by Charles and David Koch, the owners of privately held Koch Industries who often finance conservative causes. ‘It’s not the government’s role or any legislator’s role to artificially prop up an industry and force power companies to generate energy one way or another,’ Levi Russell, a spokesman for the organization, said in an interview.” [Bloomberg BNA, [10/25/12](#)]

DAYS AFTER SIGNING SB 310, GOV. KASICH SIGNED HB 483 IMPOSING STRICTER REGULATIONS ON WIND, ESSENTIALLY HALTING NEW WIND FARMS

“Just Days” After Signing SB 310, Kasich Signed HB 483, Which “Essentially Put A Stop To New Wind Farms In The State.” According to Midwest Energy News, “With little discussion or fanfare, Ohio legislators have essentially put a stop to new wind farms in the state, industry experts say. Governor John Kasich signed House Bill 483 on Monday, just days after signing another bill that freezes and alters Ohio’s renewable energy and energy efficiency standards. HB 483 includes revised setback provisions that will likely make new projects economically unfeasible. The bill ‘basically zones new wind projects out of Ohio,’ says Eric Thumma, Director of Policy and Regulatory Affairs for Iberdrola Renewables, Inc.” [Midwest Energy News, [6/19/14](#)]

A Provision In The Budget Review Bill HB 483 Imposed Stricter Regulations On Wind Farms, Requiring Wind Turbines “To Be At Least 1,300 Feet Or So...From A Property Line.” According to Cleveland.com, “As Gov. John Kasich prepares to sign a wide-ranging budget review bill Monday, wind energy advocates are urging him to veto a provision they claim would effectively block any new wind farms in Ohio. Under House Bill 483, wind turbines would have to be at least 1,300 feet or so -- depending on blade length -- from a property line. Current law requires turbines to be about 1,300 feet from a structure and roughly 550 feet from a neighboring property line.” [Cleveland.com, [6/16/14](#)]

House Bill 483 Included “Revised Setback Provisions” For Wind Farms That Would “Likely Make New Projects Economically Unfeasible” According to Midwest Energy News, “With little discussion or fanfare, Ohio legislators have essentially put a stop to new wind farms in the state, industry experts say. Governor John Kasich signed House Bill 483 on Monday, just days after signing another bill that freezes and alters Ohio’s renewable energy and energy efficiency standards. HB 483 includes revised setback provisions that will likely make new projects economically unfeasible. The bill ‘basically zones new wind projects out of Ohio,’ says Eric Thumma, Director of Policy and Regulatory Affairs for Iberdrola Renewables, Inc.” [Midwest Energy News, [6/19/14](#)]

“For Any New Commercial Wind Farms, HB 483 Will Now Require A Setback Of 1,125 Feet From The Tip Of A Turbine’s Blades To The Nearest Property Line.” According to Midwest Energy News, “For any new commercial wind

farms, HB 483 will now require a setback of 1,125 feet from the tip of a turbine's blades to the nearest property line. In practice, that will require setbacks of about 1,300 feet from each turbine's base. The new law makes an exception for existing facilities and ones that had already gotten permits. For those projects, the Ohio Power Siting Board measured the 1,125-foot setback to the outer wall of the 'nearest, habitable, residential structure' on neighboring property. Otherwise, property line setbacks were roughly 550 feet." [Midwest Energy News, [6/19/14](#)]

State Sen. Mike Skindell: The Bill Requires Wind Turbines Be Set Back By A "Quarter-Mile" From A Property Line, "We Only Have A 100- Or 200-Foot Setback For An Oil Or Gas Well Being Drilled Next To A Home." According to Midwest Energy News, "'A provision like this to change the setbacks will significantly hurt those projects in the pipeline and will significantly hurt jobs in Ohio,' protested state Sen. Mike Skindell, a Democrat from suburban Cleveland. Issues regarding setbacks should be 'debated [in] a reasonable manner, not just tucked away without any public discussion in a bill,' Skindell continued. 'I'm dumbfounded.' 'Here we're going to have a quarter-mile setback from a property line...for wind turbines,' Skindell added. 'We only have a 100- or 200-foot setback for an oil or gas well being drilled next to a home.'" [Midwest Energy News, [6/19/14](#)]

The Wind Provision Was Introduced And Passed At The Last Minute With Support From ALEC-Backed Legislators

The Wind Setback Provision Was Introduced With "Literally No Public Testimony" And Without Consulting With Industry. According to Midwest Energy News, "The wind setback provision appeared for the first time when the Ohio Senate Finance Committee reported the bill out in May. 'There was literally no public testimony' on the new setback provision, says Dayna Baird Payne. The Columbus lobbyist represents the American Wind Energy Association, as well as Iberdrola. 'They didn't consult with industry. They didn't consult with the Ohio Power Siting Board, who sites wind farms in Ohio,' Payne adds." [Midwest Energy News, [6/19/14](#)]

"The Ohio Senate Spent Barely Ten Minutes Discussing The Last-Minute Changes Before Passing The Bill" With The Wind Setback Provisions. According to Midwest Energy News, "The wind setback provision appeared for the first time when the Ohio Senate Finance Committee reported the bill out in May. 'There was literally no public testimony' on the new setback provision, says Dayna Baird Payne. [...] Indeed, the Ohio Senate spent barely ten minutes discussing the last-minute changes before passing the bill on May 21. 'A provision like this to change the setbacks will significantly hurt those projects in the pipeline and will significantly hurt jobs in Ohio,' protested state Sen. Mike Skindell, a Democrat from suburban Cleveland." [Midwest Energy News, [6/19/14](#)]

Republican State Senator Bill Seitz "Railed Against Turbines' Noise, The Possibility Of Snow Being Thrown From Blades, And Flicker That 'Would Mess Up Even Tiger Woods' Game." According to Midwest Energy News, "In response, Cincinnati-area Republican State Senator Bill Seitz railed against turbines' noise, the possibility of snow being thrown from blades, and flicker that 'would mess up even Tiger Woods' game.' 'We are conforming setback law for wind turbines, making them play by the same rules that everybody else plays by,' Seitz insisted. 'We are still being very friendly to the future development of wind farms in Ohio.'" [Midwest Energy News, [6/19/14](#)]

Seitz: "We Are Conforming Setback Law For Wind Turbines, Making Them Play By The Same Rules That Everybody Else Plays By." According to Midwest Energy News, "In response, Cincinnati-area Republican State Senator Bill Seitz railed against turbines' noise, the possibility of snow being thrown from blades, and flicker that 'would mess up even Tiger Woods' game.' 'We are conforming setback law for wind turbines, making them play by the same rules that everybody else plays by,' Seitz insisted. 'We are still being very friendly to the future development of wind farms in Ohio.'" [Midwest Energy News, [6/19/14](#)]

- **Seitz Was On ALEC's Board Of Directors And Coauthored ALEC's "Model Renewable Energy Standard Repeal Bill Known As The 'Electricity Freedom Act.'"** According to Mother Jones, "The senator's record and alliances are probably some indication of the direction he'll take his review process. In 2011, Seitz cosponsored a bill to repeal the renewable energy requirement entirely. He also sits on the board of ALEC, a public policy group that brings together corporate interests and conservative lawmakers to push industry-friendly bills in state legislatures, and coauthored the group's model renewable energy standard repeal bill known as the 'Electricity Freedom Act.'" [Mother Jones, [4/5/13](#)]

HB 483 Was Sponsored By Rep. Ron Amstutz. According to the Ohio General Assembly Archives, HB 483's primary sponsor was Rep. Ron Amstutz. [Ohio General Assembly Archives 130th General Assembly, accessed [8/12/15](#)]

Ron Amstutz Was A Member Of ALEC. According to the report ALEC in Ohio by People for the American Way, Common Cause, Progress Ohio, and the Center for Media and Democracy, Rep. Ron Amstutz was a member of ALEC in 2012. [PFAW.org, [2/7/12](#)]

In 1996 Amstutz Chaired The Electric Industry Subcommittee Of ALEC's Energy, Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture Task Force. According to the prepared testimony by Arizona Rep. Jeff Groscost before the House Committee on Commerce Subcommittee on Energy and Power, "As a member of ALEC's Energy, Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture (EENRA) Task Force, I currently serve as a member of the Executive Committee, and chair the Electric Industry Restructuring subcommittee. [...] Newport, Rhode Island--August, 1996--At ALEC's Annual Meeting the EENRA Task Force establishes a new electric industry subcommittee, chaired by Representative Ron Amstutz of Ohio. to draft model enacting legislation for consideration at the next Task Force Meeting.Dallas, Texas--September. 1996--The first subcommittee meeting is held with the aid of a professional mediator. The subcommittee works to establish a statement of principles prior to developing legislation." [Prepared Testimony By Representative Jeff Groscost State Of Arizona Before The House Committee On Commerce Subcommittee On Energy And Power, 9/24/97]

- **The Electric Industry Subcommittee Was Created To "Draft Model Enacting Legislation" To "Endorse Competition In The Electric Industry."** According to the prepared testimony by Arizona Rep. Jeff Groscost before the House Committee on Commerce Subcommittee on Energy and Power, "ALEC becomes the first legislative organization to endorse competition in the electric industry. Newport, Rhode Island--August, 1996--At ALEC's Annual Meeting the EENRA Task Force establishes a new electric industry subcommittee, chaired by Representative Ron Amstutz of Ohio. to draft model enacting legislation for consideration at the next Task Force Meeting.Dallas, Texas--September. 1996--The first subcommittee meeting is held with the aid of a professional mediator. The subcommittee works to establish a statement of principles prior to developing legislation." [Prepared Testimony By Representative Jeff Groscost State Of Arizona Before The House Committee On Commerce Subcommittee On Energy And Power, 9/24/97]

AFP TARGETED LAWMAKERS WHO SUPPORTED WIND ENERGY SUBSIDIES

AFP Launched Print Ads "In Newspapers Across The Country" To Urge Lawmakers To Oppose Renewing Wind Subsidies. According to a press release from Americans for Prosperity, "Americans for Prosperity is expanding its effort to urge dozens of lawmakers to oppose renewing billions of dollars in wind subsidies that were allowed to expire last year. The group launched print ads today in newspapers across the country, adding to a six-figure digital ad buy that began last week. The investments complement a surge in grassroots activity around the issue this month." [Americans for Prosperity Press Release, [11/24/14](#)]

- **The Print Ads Were Published "In Major Newspapers In Eight States," Including Florida, Texas, And Ohio.** According to a press release from Americans for Prosperity, "The new print ads (right) appear in major newspapers in eight states today, including the Tampa Bay Times (Reps. Gus Bilirakis and Vern Buchanan), Houston Chronicle (Reps. Kevin Brady and Michael McCaul) and Columbus Dispatch (Rep. Bill Johnson). The group is asking the public to call these lawmakers and urge them to oppose renewal of the Wind Production Tax Credit (PTC)." [Americans for Prosperity Press Release, [11/24/14](#)]

The AFP Ads Targeted Three Ohio Congressmen: Bob Gibbs, Bill Johnson, and Mike Turner, Over Support Of Wind Production Tax Credit. According to the Cleveland Plain Dealer, "A Tea Party organization that's funded by groups linked to the oil industry-affiliated Koch Brothers is pressuring three Ohio GOP Congress members to oppose extending a tax credit for wind power projects. Americans for Prosperity announced this week that it's placing print ads that urge congress members Bob Gibbs of Holmes County, Bill Johnson of Marietta and Mike Turner of the Dayton area to vote against the tax credit, calling it a 'handout' that will cost \$13 billion over the next decade." [Cleveland.com, [11/26/14](#)]

60 PLUS HELD AND PARTICIPATED IN EVENTS OPPOSING THE OHIO WIND ENERGY PRODUCTION TAX CREDIT

60 Plus Held An Event With Ohio Treasurer Josh Mandel, Tea Party Nation Action, Rep. Brad Wenstrup And Rep. Bill Johnson To Urge Congress Not To Renew The Wind Energy Production Tax Credit. According to The Columbus Dispatch, "Ohio Treasurer Josh Mandel, who has hardly campaigned at all in the past two months, appeared at two events today, but neither was related to his re-election bid against Democrat Connie Pillich. Mandel attended 'citizen roundtables' in Chillicothe and West Chester sponsored by the 60 Plus Association, a Washington, D.C.,-based group that says it advocates

for senior citizens on a variety of issues. In fact, the group is funded largely by the Koch brothers, Karl Rove and other Republican groups. It has funded numerous ads in the past attacking Democratic opponents of GOP candidates. Mandel's office confirmed he 'participated along with Congressman Brad Wenstrup's office and Congressman Bill Johnson's office in citizen roundtables today regarding energy and tax policy...The discussion centered around policy to lower utility bills for senior citizens.' The event was billed by several conservative groups, including Tea Party Nation, as part of a 'lame-duck tour' to lobby congress against renewing tax-subsidies for wind power.'" [Columbus Dispatch, [10/23/14](#)]

- **60 Plus President Amy Fredrick Claimed Ohio Seniors Cannot Afford To Renew The Wind Energy Production Tax Credit.** According to the Dayton Daily News, "[60 Plus President Amy] Fredrick, whose group represents millions of senior nationwide and more than 300,000 in Ohio, said the population her organization represents can't afford Congress to renew the [Wind Energy Production] tax credit. 'Ohio seniors, especially those living on fixed incomes, have been devastated these last few years by skyrocketing energy bills they must pay each month,' she said, adding that the country's 'most vulnerable' population pay a significant portion of their monthly income toward utility bills." [Dayton Daily News, [10/23/14](#)]

60 Plus Participated In Two Rallies In Ohio In Opposition To The Wind Energy Production Tax Credit. According to a 60 Plus Association web post, "The 60 Plus Association, a non-partisan, seniors advocacy group with 7.2 million senior supporters, including 303,000 in Ohio, will join the Waste in the Wind coalition for two rallies as part of a grassroots effort to stop Congress from renewing the wind energy Production Tax Credit (PTC). Though the credit expired in 2013, organizers are concerned that the upcoming lame-duck Congress plans to re-enact the credits, which are responsible for soaking taxpayers for billions of dollars as well as directly contributing to higher energy costs for consumers. The rallies will take place on Thursday, October 23rd in Chillicothe and West Chester Township at 9:00 am and 2:30 pm respectively." [60Plus.org, [10/20/14](#)]

- **60 Plus President Amy Frederick Spoke At The Rallies To "Highlight" The "Waste, Cost And Corruption" Of Energy Subsidies.** According to a 60 Plus Association web post, "60 Plus President Amy Frederick will be speaking at the rally to highlight what she calls the 'waste, cost and corruption' of federal wind energy subsidies, and their direct harm to older Americans. 'Ohio seniors, especially those living on fix [*sic*] incomes, have been devastated these last few years by skyrocketing energy bills they must pay each month,' said Frederick. 'By far, seniors pay a great proportion of their monthly income to keep the lights on and their homes warm in winter. Across Ohio and across the nation, millions of our greatest generation are scraping to get by, living on fixed incomes that are not keeping pace with inflation. Wind subsidies like the PTC are a major reason why.'" [60Plus.org, [10/20/14](#)]

OHIO CONSIDERED ALEC LEGISLATION TO PERMANENTLY REPEAL ITS RENEWABLE STANDARDS

ALEC Was The "Leading Force" Behind Ohio's 2013 Push To Eliminate Renewable Energy Standards. According to the News-Herald, "Battle lines are being drawn over whether Ohio should scrap its renewable energy standard, which requires power companies to generate a portion of their electricity from renewable sources such as solar and wind. In hearings last week, Ohio Senate Public Utilities Chairman Bill Seitz, a Cincinnati Republican, reopened discussions on the 2008 state law, which said utilities must produce 12.5 percent of their electricity from renewables by 2025. The law also set energy efficiency targets to be met by the companies. [...] The American Legislative Exchange Council, a policy advisory group dominated by Republicans and targeted by liberals, is a leading force behind the push against the renewable energy targets. Ohio is among states to which the council has provided model legislation eliminating the targets for renewables, dubbed the Electricity Freedom Act." [News-Herald, [3/24/13](#)]

Ohio Was One Of The States To Which ALEC "Provided Model Legislation, Dubbed The Electricity Freedom Act, That Eliminated Renewable Targets." According to The Canton Repository, "John Kasich on Friday signed into law a bill delaying the phase-in of the state's renewable-energy and efficiency targets and repealing advanced-energy mandates put in place in 2008. The law puts a two-year hold on renewable targets in a compromise Kasich backed to avoid a full repeal being pushed in the state Senate. [...] The push to revisit the standards was led by the American Legislative Exchange Council, a policy advisory group dominated by Republicans and funded by corporations. Ohio is among states to which the council provided model legislation, dubbed the Electricity Freedom Act, that eliminated renewable targets." [Canton Repository, [6/14/14](#)]

The Bill Freezing Ohio's Renewable Energy Mandates, SB 310, Established The Energy Mandates Study Committee To Make "Recommendations For Future Energy Policy." According to Midwest Energy News, "Upcoming meetings of Ohio's Energy Mandates Study Committee will be open to the public, but the extent to which the public will have a voice in the proceedings remains to be seen. The committee was established by Senate Bill 310, which temporarily freezes and substantially modifies the state's renewable energy and efficiency standards. It is tasked with studying the results of those laws and making recommendations for future energy policy." [Midwest Energy News, [10/30/14](#)]

"At Least Seven" Of The Energy Mandates Study Committee Members "Are Or Have Been Members Of ALEC," Including ALEC Board Member Bill Seitz. According to Midwest Energy News, "Except for Cafaro, all the [Energy Mandates Study] committee's Ohio Senate members voted for SB 310. The four Republican members from the House voted for SB 310 as well. Materials from People for the American Way and the Center for Media and Democracy also show that at least seven of the committee members are or have been members of ALEC, the American Legislative Exchange Council. Funded primarily by corporate interests, ALEC actively pushes for the repeal of renewable energy standards. That group with ties to ALEC includes board of directors member Bill Seitz (R-Cincinnati), several other Republicans, and Democrat Stinziano." [Midwest Energy News, [10/30/14](#)]

- **Ohio State Sen. Bill Seitz Compared Ohio's Renewable Energy And Energy Efficiency Standards To "Joseph Stalin's Five-Year Plan."** According to Mother Jones, "Bill Seitz, a Republican state senator from Ohio, recently told the Wall Street Journal that his state's renewable energy and energy efficiency standards are reminiscent of 'Joseph Stalin's five-year plan.' Seitz, who is also on the board of the shadowy corporate-government allegiance known as the American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC), made this charmingly ahistorical claim just a week after inviting the climate-change-denying Heartland Institute to testify against the standard before the Ohio Senate Public Utilities Committee." [Mother Jones, [4/5/13](#)]
- **Seitz Coauthored ALEC's "Model Renewable Energy Standard Repeal Bill Known As The 'Electricity Freedom Act.'"** According to Mother Jones, "The senator's record and alliances are probably some indication of the direction he'll take his review process. In 2011, Seitz cosponsored a bill to repeal the renewable energy requirement entirely. He also sits on the board of ALEC, a public policy group that brings together corporate interests and conservative lawmakers to push industry-friendly bills in state legislatures, and coauthored the group's model renewable energy standard repeal bill known as the 'Electricity Freedom Act.'" [Mother Jones, [4/5/13](#)]

Think Progress: "Despite The Time And Money ALEC Is Pouring Into Fighting The Transition To Renewable Energy, It Seems That Wind And Solar Have Some Powerful Supporters, As Well." According to Think Progress, "But despite the time and money ALEC is pouring into fighting the transition to renewable energy, it seems that wind and solar have some powerful supporters, as well. Big businesses, including data services and clean energy developers, have paired with environmental advocates to stymie many of ALEC's challenges." [Think Progress, [6/5/15](#)]

Think Progress: "Last Year, ALEC-Affiliated Legislators In Arizona, Colorado, Kansas, And Ohio Proposed Rolling Back State RPSs. New Mexico and New Hampshire saw efforts, as well." According to Think Progress, "Last year, ALEC-affiliated legislators in Arizona, Colorado, Kansas, and Ohio proposed rolling back state RPSs. New Mexico and New Hampshire saw efforts, as well. Only the efforts in Ohio were successful, while Kansas reached a different agreement this year." [Think Progress, [6/5/15](#)]

- **Think Progress: "Only The Efforts In Ohio Were Successful, While Kansas Reached A Different Agreement This Year."** According to Think Progress, "Last year, ALEC-affiliated legislators in Arizona, Colorado, Kansas, and Ohio proposed rolling back state RPSs. New Mexico and New Hampshire saw efforts, as well. Only the efforts in Ohio were successful, while Kansas reached a different agreement this year." [Think Progress, [6/5/15](#)]

Freedom Partners Gave \$500,000 To An Ohio Chamber Of Congress Group That Worked With ALEC To Roll Back Ohio's Renewable Energy Standards

Freedom Partners Gave \$500,000 To The Partnership For Ohio's Future. According to the Center for Media and Democracy's PR Watch, "The Freedom Partners Chamber of Commerce spent another \$50 million on other groups, cumulatively, some of which are well known and some of which have flown below the public's radar: [...] 'Partnership for Ohio's Future,' \$500,000." [PR Watch, [9/18/13](#)]

- **Partnership For Ohio's Future Is An Organization Of The Ohio Chamber Of Commerce.** According to the Columbus Dispatch, "The Ohio Chamber of Commerce and its organization, Partnership for Ohio's Future, has been heavily involved in past Supreme Court races." [Columbus Dispatch, 10/29/14]
- **The Ohio Chamber Of Commerce Worked With ALEC To Roll Back Ohio's Renewable Energy Standards.** According to The Washington Post, "Ohio Gov. John Kasich (R) dashed the hopes of environmentalists, leading manufacturers and renewable-energy businesses Friday and signed a bill shelving requirements for utilities to ramp up the use of renewable energy and energy efficiency. Ohio has been a battleground over whether to roll back 2008 legislation requiring the state to acquire 12.5 percent of its energy portfolio from renewables and to reduce energy consumption by 22 percent by 2025. The Ohio Chamber of Commerce, the utility First Energy and the American Legislative Exchange Council pushed to roll back the standards." [Washington Post, [6/13/14](#)]

PUBLICATIONS AND LAWMAKERS CRITICIZED KOCH GROUPS FOR OPPOSING WIND ENERGY IN OHIO

Toledo Blade Editor David Kushma: Ohio Took A "Step Backward" After Gov. Kasich "Signed Legislation Promoted By The Koch Brothers" That "Paused Ohio's Alternative-Energy And Energy-Efficiency Standards."

According to an opinion by Toledo Blade editor David Kushma for the Toledo Blade, "It must have hurt [Gov. Kasich] when the billionaire Koch brothers excluded the governor from their current list of five Republican presidential candidates, actual and prospective, they say have 'a good chance of getting elected.' Charles and David Koch say they're prepared to spend \$300 million to influence electoral politics next year. Last year, Governor Kasich signed legislation promoted by the Koch brothers - who have huge holdings in traditional energy - that paused Ohio's alternative-energy and energy-efficiency standards. Ohio was the first state to take such a step backward." [David Kushma – Toledo Blade, [4/26/15](#)]

- **Kushma: The Kochs "Have Huge Holdings In Traditional Energy."** According to an opinion by Toledo Blade editor David Kushma in the Toledo Blade, "Last year, Governor [John] Kasich signed legislation promoted by the Koch brothers — who have huge holdings in traditional energy — that paused Ohio's alternative-energy and energy-efficiency standards. Ohio was the first state to take such a step backward." [David Kushma – Toledo Blade, [4/26/15](#)]

Toledo Blade Columnist Marilou Johaneck: by Putting Green Energy On "Hold" Gov. Kasich "Caved" To ALEC And The Koch Brothers, "Whose Money Increasingly Dictates Legislative And Election Outcomes." According to an opinion by columnist Marilou Johaneck for the Toledo Blade, "Governor Kasich caved to members of ALEC, who double as lawmakers, in the General Assembly. He caved to Charles and David Koch, the billionaire industrialists whose money increasingly dictates legislative and election outcomes. [...] But placing green-energy advances on hold for study discourages investment in renewables. In policy-driven energy markets, uncertainty puts a damper on everything. Investors are unwilling to risk capital on iffy support. States with full support and partnership for alternate energy will lure investment elsewhere." [Marilou Johaneck – Toledo Blade, [6/7/14](#)]

Boston Globe Editorial: "Wind Can Do For Ohio What It Did For Iowa, If Voters And Their Representatives Steer Clear Of The Hot Air Coming From The Koch Brothers." According to a Boston Globe Editorial, "In the absence of a national energy policy, about 30 states have adopted plans to create more electricity from renewable sources. [...] Yet even these modest state policies are under attack from groups including Americans for Prosperity and the American Legislative Exchange Council, which are both closely aligned with the billionaire Koch brothers. [...] Ohio is on the front lines of the fight against greenhouse-gas emissions, with a whopping 69 percent of its electricity coming from the dirtiest of fossil fuels, coal. [...] While low-income consumers may be loath to pay a penny more for electricity in order to curb climate change, they should at least appreciate the benefits of supporting home-grown sources; Iowa, for example, gets more than 27 percent of its electricity from wind power, supporting between 3,000 and 4,000 jobs. Wind can do for Ohio what it did for Iowa, if voters and their representatives steer clear of the hot air coming from the Koch brothers." [Editorial - Boston Globe, [8/18/14](#)]

Leeco Steel Vice President John Purcell: "As A Conservative Businessman...I Want Washington To Know That The Koch Brothers Do Not Speak For Me" On Wind Energy. According to an opinion by Leeco Steel vice president John Purcell for Cleveland.com, "A recently obtained memo from a Koch brothers-backed group revealed their renewed attempt to attack wind energy. As a conservative businessman and father, I want Washington to know that the Koch brothers do not speak for me." [John Purcell – Cleveland.com, [5/30/15](#)]

- **Purcell: I Hope GOP Candidates Will “Stand Up For Their Values Even If It Means Turning Down Money That They Know Has Strings Attached... It’s Hard To Soar With The Eagles When Your Wings Are Coated In Oil.”** According to an opinion by Leeco Steel vice president John Purcell for Cleveland.com, “I shouldn’t have been shocked when I woke up the other day to see that the Koch brothers are going to interview 2016 GOP presidential candidates to see who is worthy of a share of the Kochs’ \$300 million election-spending prize, but I was. One more nail in the coffin of our ‘by the people, for the people’ democracy. Whichever candidate is the chosen one, I won’t vote for that person. I’ll pull the lever for a Republican to be sure. I’m just hoping that there will be one who will rise to the top and not be awash in the Koch brothers’ oil money. To be clear, I have no problem with the fact that they made money off of oil. What I do have a problem with is attacking their cleaner competition with misconceptions. I hope Republican candidates will follow the mold of Reagan and stand up for their values even if it means turning down money that they know has strings attached. After all, it’s hard to soar with the eagles when your wings are coated in oil.” [John Purcell – Cleveland.com, [5/30/15](#)]

Ohio Democratic Gubernatorial Candidate Ed Fitzgerald: Kasich Opposes Renewable Energy Mandates Because Of The Koch Brothers. According to Business Insider, “FitzGerald, the executive of Cleveland-based Cuyahoga County, connected the legislature’s temporary freeze of Ohio’s mandates to the political influence of the Koch brothers — billionaires Charles and David Koch, of Koch Industries — and other energy-related special interests. ‘We live in a country where it’s not just a show of hands, unfortunately; some people have bigger hands than others. There aren’t that many people who are against it. If you poll it, you’ll see that overwhelmingly people are in favor of it. But, look let’s just get real here: The Koch brothers aren’t. And they spoke out about this ... They’ve spent money in Ohio before and I think that they will again. And their influence is being felt,’ said FitzGerald. FitzGerald directly accused Kasich of only supporting the bill out of the hope that the Kochs would launch an independent expenditure on behalf of the Republican’s re-election campaign.” [Business Insider, [6/2/14](#)]

- **“Fitzgerald Directly Accused Kasich Of Only Supporting The Bill Out Of The Hope That The Kochs Would Launch An Independent Expenditure On Behalf Of The Republican’s Re-Election Campaign.”** According to Business Insider, “FitzGerald directly accused Kasich of only supporting the bill out of the hope that the Kochs would launch an independent expenditure on behalf of the Republican’s re-election campaign. ‘Look, he’s not going to say why he’s for it,’ said FitzGerald, arguing the two-year freeze was on the path to becoming a permanent blow against wind and solar energy in his state. ‘Why do I think he’s for it? It doesn’t make any sense ... unless you factor in money.’” [Business Insider, [6/2/14](#)]

Midwest Energy News: “Critics Note” That “The Ohio Legislature Disregarded” Much Of The Evidence Of Economic Benefits From Ohio’s Renewable Energy Standards. According to Midwest Energy News, “The committee was established by Senate Bill 310, which temporarily freezes and substantially modifies the state’s renewable energy and efficiency standards. It is tasked with studying the results of those laws and making recommendations for future energy policy. Various reports document economic benefits from the standards and show their popularity with Ohioans. Nonetheless, critics note that the Ohio legislature disregarded much of that evidence when it passed SB 310 earlier this year.” [Midwest Energy News, [10/30/14](#)]

The Checks And Balances Project Filed A Request For All Written Communication Between Kasich And Koch Industries After Kasich Signed The Renewable Energy Freeze

The Checks And Balances Project Filed A Request For Information “Of Any And All Written And Email Communication From Governor Kasich And His Staff To Representatives Of Koch Industries, Inc.” According to a Checks and Balances Project web post, “Today the Checks and Balances Project filed a request for information from Ohio Governor John Kasich regarding communications he and his senior staff might have had with fossil fuel interests in the run up to his decision to gut clean energy expansion in his state. In June, the Governor signed SB 310, a bill that put a ‘freeze’ on the state’s popular and successful renewable and energy-efficiency standard. The Checks and Balances Project is seeking documentation of any and all written and email communication from Governor Kasich and his staff to representatives of Koch Industries, Inc. and the lobbying organizations they are known to financially support, as well as between the Governor, his staff and the state’s investor-owned utilities.” [ChecksAndBalancesProject.org, [7/2/14](#)]

- **The Request From The Checks And Balances Project Came After Kasich Signed A “Freeze” On Ohio’s Renewable Energy Standards.** According to a Checks and Balances Project web post, “Today the Checks and Balances Project filed a request for information from Ohio Governor John Kasich regarding communications he and his senior

staff might have had with fossil fuel interests in the run up to his decision to gut clean energy expansion in his state. In June, the Governor signed SB 310, a bill that put a ‘freeze’ on the state’s popular and successful renewable and energy-efficiency standard. The Checks and Balances Project is seeking documentation of any and all written and email communication from Governor Kasich and his staff to representatives of Koch Industries, Inc. and the lobbying organizations they are known to financially support, as well as between the Governor, his staff and the state’s investor-owned utilities.” [ChecksAndBalancesProject.org, [7/2/14](#)]

- **The Checks And Balances Project Filed Their Request “In Light Of A Recent \$12,155 Donation” From David Koch To Kasich’s Reelection Campaign.** According to a Checks and Balances Project web post, “We have made this request in light of a recent \$12,155 donation (the maximum allowed donation under Ohio campaign finance law) made by David Koch, of Koch Industries, Inc. to Governor Kasich’ 2014 re-election campaign. Ohioans deserve to know why Governor Kasich decided to sign SB 310, despite the fact that it could cost Ohio consumers \$1.1 billion dollars (PDF), put 25,000 Ohio jobs at risk, was overwhelmingly opposed by Ohioans, major editorial pages in the state, and a significant number of major businesses.” [ChecksAndBalancesProject.org, [7/2/14](#)]
- **The Checks And Balances Project Is An Organization That Focuses On “Holding Government Officials, Lobbyists, And Corporate Management Accountable For Their Actions.”** According to the Checks and Balances Project website, “Our focus is on holding government officials, lobbyists, and corporate management accountable for their actions related to energy, government spending, public health, and the environment. Through fair research and reporting we’re going to ask the hard questions, to pursue the answers, and to ensure transparency so that people have the facts when important decisions are made and the interests of American taxpayers are at stake. The Checks and Balances Project is a government and industry watchdog group.” [ChecksAndBalancesProject.org, accessed [7/14/15](#)]

The Kasich Administration Responded To The Request By Saying That “No Records Exist Concerning The Check And Balance Project’s Areas Of Inquiry.” According to the Columbus Dispatch Your Right To Know blog, “the Checks and Balances Project accuses the administration of evading its request for records concerning Senate Bill 310, which weakened Ohio’s renewable energy standards. The law was crafted by majority Republican lawmakers and signed by Kasich. Simply put, the Kasich administration said in its response letter to the group, no records exist concerning the Check and Balance Project’s areas of inquiry and it failed to sufficiently identify records it sought concerning meetings between the governor’s staff and electrical (coal-burning) utility representatives. The group was particularly interested in meetings between Kasich staff and conservative stalwarts such as the Koch brothers, the American Legislative Exchange Council and Americans for Prosperity.” [Columbus Dispatch, [7/2/14](#)]

THE RENEWABLE ENERGY FREEZE AND WIND TURBINE SETBACK REQUIREMENTS BROUGHT INVESTMENT IN RENEWABLE ENERGY TO A HALT AND THREATENED JOBS

Ohio Attracted \$1.3 Billion In Private Clean Energy Investment From 2009 To 2013 And Was Expected To Generate An Additional \$3.3 Billion Over The Next Decade. According to Pew Charitable Trusts, “Research by The Pew Charitable Trusts, released during a briefing with clean energy executives in Columbus, demonstrates how Ohio established a foundation for clean energy technologies in 2008 with the passage of its alternative energy portfolio standard and energy efficiency portfolio standard. Since that time, the state has leveraged other state and federal financing such as tax exemptions, rebates, and loans to build on that groundwork. Ohio attracted \$1.3 billion in private clean energy investment from 2009 to 2013 and is expected to generate an additional \$3.3 billion over the next decade, according to Navigant Research.” [Pew Charitable Trusts, [1/13/15](#)]

By The End Of 2012, New Investments In Ohio’s Clean Energy Sector Had Grown To Roughly 35 Times Their 2009 Level. According to Midwest Energy News, “Last week the Pew Charitable Trusts released a report documenting the huge growth in investments in Ohio’s clean energy industry in the years following adoption of those standards in 2008. That same report also shows a huge drop after state lawmakers began debating changes to those standards in 2013. The study’s authors expect investment levels will stay low through at least 2017. By the end of 2012, new investments in Ohio’s clean energy sector had grown to roughly 35 times their 2009 level, the Pew report shows.” [Midwest Energy News, [1/22/15](#)]

“In The Wake” Of The Passage Of SB 310, Freezing Renewable Energy Standards, Investments In Ohio’s Clean Energy Sector “Have Plummeted.” According to Midwest Energy News, “Late last spring, Gov. John Kasich signed Senate Bill 310 into law. SB 310 ‘freezes’ increases in the energy efficiency and renewable energy targets for two years, while also

scaling back the scope of those standards. In the wake of the legislature's actions, investments in the state's clean energy sector have plummeted, the Pew report shows." [Midwest Energy News, [1/22/15](#)]

- **Pew's Clean Energy Initiative Manager Tom Swanson: "SB 310 Has Really Been The Main Driver Of Why We've Seen Investment Dip."** According to Midwest Energy News, "In the wake of the legislature's actions, investments in the state's clean energy sector have plummeted, the Pew report shows. 'Investment has dropped off considerably, particularly in the wind industry,' said [Pew's Clean Energy Initiative manager Tom] Swanson. A federal production tax credit for wind energy ended in 2013, and another 2014 law in Ohio tripled the property line setbacks for commercial wind turbines, Swanson noted. But, Swanson stressed, 'SB 310 has really been the main driver of why we've seen investment dip.' That's because of the bill's 'overarching' reach and its impact on local markets." [Midwest Energy News, [1/22/15](#)]

Ohio Rep. Dan Ramos: Market Uncertainty "Put Nearly 89,000 Clean-Energy Jobs At Risk." According to an opinion by Ohio Representative Dan Ramos for the News Observer, "The bill has even adversely affected low-income families in our state. Ohio Partners for Affordable Energy, a collection of nonprofits that assists 440,000 Ohioans through bill-payment assistance and 17,000 families by providing weatherization services, will likely lose 40 percent of its funding because of reduced investment. The market uncertainty has put nearly 89,000 clean-energy jobs at risk." [News Observer, [6/8/15](#)]

Sluggish Job Growth In The Renewable Energy Industry Was "Likely Attributable To Uncertainty Surrounding S.B. 310." According to Environmental Entrepreneurs, "The renewable energy industry (e.g., wind and solar) reported sluggish job growth of 1.5% last year, while energy efficiency jobs grew 4.5% – both below the average and likely attributable to uncertainty surrounding S.B. 310." [Environmental Entrepreneurs [May 2015](#)]

- **Ohio's 2014 Energy Efficiency Job Growth Was "Below The Average," Also Likely Attributable To Uncertainty Surrounding S.B. 310.** According to Environmental Entrepreneurs, "The renewable energy industry (e.g., wind and solar) reported sluggish job growth of 1.5% last year, while energy efficiency jobs grew 4.5% – both below the average and likely attributable to uncertainty surrounding S.B. 310." [Environmental Entrepreneurs, [May 2015](#)]

Pew Charitable Trusts: "Installations And Revenue In Some Sectors, Particularly Wind, Are Expected To Stall Over The Next Two Years, Because Of The Freeze Of The Renewable Portfolio Standard." According to Pew Charitable Trusts, "Installations and revenue in most sectors, particularly wind, are expected to stall over the next two years, because of the freeze of the renewable portfolio standard, and begin picking up again after 2016. However, future investment may be significantly less than projected if the suspension is maintained indefinitely or if clean energy project developers redirect investment to other states because of policy uncertainty in Ohio." [Pew Charitable Trusts, [January 2015](#)]

- **Pew: "Future Investment May Be Significantly Less Than Projected If The Suspension Is Maintained Indefinitely Or If Clean Energy Project Developers Redirect Investment To Other States Because Of Policy Uncertainty In Ohio."** According to Pew Charitable Trusts, "Installations and revenue in most sectors, particularly wind, are expected to stall over the next two years, because of the freeze of the renewable portfolio standard, and begin picking up again after 2016. However, future investment may be significantly less than projected if the suspension is maintained indefinitely or if clean energy project developers redirect investment to other states because of policy uncertainty in Ohio." [Pew Charitable Trusts, [January 2015](#)]

"Wind-Energy Development In Ohio Has Entered A...Agonizing Limbo" Because Of The "Laws That Help To Reduce Demand For Wind Power And Increased The Required Distance Between Turbines And Buildings." According to the Columbus Dispatch, "Ohio's Wind-energy development in Ohio has entered a long and sometimes agonizing limbo. [...] Energy developers have watched this year as the Ohio General Assembly passed laws that help to reduce demand for wind power and increased the required distance between turbines and buildings. 'Sometimes there's just too much to overcome,' said Michael Speerschneider, chief permitting and public policy officer for EverPower, the Pittsburgh-based developer behind three pending projects." [Columbus Dispatch, [12/21/14](#)]

- **11 Projects Approved By State Legislators Sat Without A Single Wind Turbine Installed.** According to the Columbus Dispatch, "State regulators have approved 11 projects that have yet to install a single wind turbine. Developers say the projects — which would more than triple the state's wind-energy output — are alive, despite state laws passed this year that some of the same companies said would kill investment. At the same time, local residents say they are stuck waiting to see what will happen with proposed projects in their communities. This includes people who support and

oppose the turbines. And all sides are watching a federal debate about whether to renew a tax credit that, if discontinued, would be a serious blow to project financing.” [Columbus Dispatch, [12/21/14](#)]

- **Ohio Farmer Jon Berry: “We’re Sitting Here Wasting Four Or Five Years Of Opportunities.”** According to the Columbus Dispatch, “Other residents and business leaders share his frustration with the lack of activity, but for the opposite reason. They are eager to see the investment, tax payments and royalties. ‘We’re sitting here wasting four or five years of opportunities,’ said Jon Berry, a farmer in Union Township in Champaign County who would get two turbines near his house if the Buckeye Wind Farm gets built.” [Columbus Dispatch, [12/21/14](#)]

SB 310 And HB 483 (Freezing Renewable Energy Mandates Restricting The Building Of Wind Turbines), Drove Business Away From Ohio

Pew Clean Energy Initiative Manager: “Now, Many Manufacturers Are Directing Their Investments Elsewhere Because Policy Uncertainty Is Tightening The Local Market For Their Products.” According to Pew Charitable Trusts, “‘Ohio’s experience demonstrates the importance of long-term policy to foster growth in the clean energy industry,’ said Tom Swanson, manager for The Pew Charitable Trusts’ clean energy initiative. ‘The state’s alternative energy portfolio standard, along with the federal production tax credit, boosted Ohio’s strong manufacturing base, which at one point supported 62 facilities producing wind energy components—more than any other state. But now, many manufacturers are directing their investments elsewhere because policy uncertainty is tightening the local market for their products.’” [Pew Charitable Trusts, [1/13/15](#)]

Ohio Rep. Dan Ramos: “Iberdrola Renewables, The Second-Largest Operator Of Wind Power In The Country, Had Planned 75 New Turbine Sites In Ohio,” But “Under SB310 And New Setback Requirements, Only Two Sites Are Allowed.” According to an opinion by Ohio Representative Dan Ramos for the News Observer, “Our legislature and governor chose not to pay attention to these results, and in May 2014 passed SB 310, which froze our REPS requirements and rolled back our energy-efficiency standards. [...] Though the bill was passed last year, there is mounting evidence of its harmful effects on renewable energy investment in our economy. To start, wind development in Ohio has almost completely frozen. Iberdrola Renewables, the second-largest operator of wind power in the country, had planned 75 new turbine sites in Ohio, generating more than \$1 million annually in lease payments and \$1.35 million annually in local taxes. Under SB310 and new setback requirements, only two sites are allowed.” [Dan Ramos - News Observer, [6/8/15](#)]

- **Ramos: The Turbine Sites Would Have Generated “More Than \$1 Million Annually In Lease Payments And \$1.35 Million Annually In Local Taxes.”** According to an opinion by Ohio Representative Dan Ramos for the News Observer, “To start, wind development in Ohio has almost completely frozen. Iberdrola Renewables, the second-largest operator of wind power in the country, had planned 75 new turbine sites in Ohio, generating more than \$1 million annually in lease payments and \$1.35 million annually in local taxes. Under SB310 and new setback requirements, only two sites are allowed.” [Dan Ramos- News Observer, [6/8/15](#)]

Dovetail Solar And Wind Employed More Than 40 Workers And “Had Plans To Hire Even More Workers” But Business Volume Dropped By Two-Thirds And The Company Laid Off Half Its Workforce. According to Environmental Entrepreneurs, “Three years ago Al Frasz’s renewable energy company, Dovetail Solar and Wind, was humming along nicely. The growing business employed more than 40 workers across Ohio. Dovetail had procurement specialists and a structural engineer in Athens, design teams in both Athens and Cincinnati, a safety manager in Toledo, and a team of installation technicians and project managers widely distributed across Ohio. All these employees were part of an expanding workforce helping to build commercial-scale renewable energy projects. They collaborated on projects ranging from a solar array at an Air National Guard base in Columbus to a wind turbine in an apple orchard in Lexington. Back in those days, Frasz had plans to hire even more workers. But then S.B. 310 was passed by the state legislature, and signed into law by Gov. John Kasich. Ohio’s successful renewable portfolio standard was suddenly frozen in its tracks. Dovetail’s business dropped sharply. The company began losing money. To keep it from going under, Frasz opened new lines of credit. He even pumped a large amount of his own cash into the business. By 2014, Frasz’s business volume was a third of what it used to be, and he had to lay off half his workforce. At its post-S.B.-310 low point, just 22 people worked at Dovetail.” [Environmental Entrepreneurs, [May 2015](#)]

- **“More Than 95 Percent Of Dovetail’s Work Used To Be In Ohio; That Figure Has Now Dropped To Less Than 60 Percent.”** According to Environmental Entrepreneurs, “Frasz quickly realized that he had to realign his business model to focus more on where the action was: out-of-state. In addition to its five Ohio locations, Dovetail opened offices

in Brighton, Mich., and Asheville, N.C., to take advantage strong renewable policies in those states. ‘Ohio is putting up roadblocks, while the rest of the world is moving forward,’ said Frasz, noting that Dovetail has completed more than 350 projects. More than 95 percent of Dovetail’s work used to be in Ohio; that figure has now dropped to less than 60 percent.” [Environmental Entrepreneurs, [May 2015](#)]

- **Dovetail Solar And Wind Owner Al Frasz: “Ohio Is Putting Up Roadblocks, While The Rest Of The World Is Moving Forward.”** According to Environmental Entrepreneurs, “Frasz quickly realized that he had to realign his business model to focus more on where the action was: out-of-state. In addition to its five Ohio locations, Dovetail opened offices in Brighton, Mich., and Asheville, N.C., to take advantage strong renewable policies in those states. ‘Ohio is putting up roadblocks, while the rest of the world is moving forward,’ said Frasz, noting that Dovetail has completed more than 350 projects. More than 95 percent of Dovetail’s work used to be in Ohio; that figure has now dropped to less than 60 percent.” [Environmental Entrepreneurs, [May 2015](#)]

Melink Corporation Shifted Its Business Focus Away From Ohio. According to Midwest Energy News, “Melink Corporation in Milford, Ohio, is already shifting its business focus. The company’s previous solar energy projects in Ohio include a 6,400-panel array at the Cincinnati Zoo. [...] In the wake of SB 310’s passage, Melink and other companies have been depending on opportunities outside the state. ‘Indianapolis, a city just two hours away in driving time from Columbus and Cincinnati, is one of the largest markets for solar,’ Melink noted. The company has just completed two large projects there, which were supported by a feed-in tariff.” [Midwest Energy News, [9/18/14](#)]

- **Melink Corporation President Steve Melink: “Solar Projects Are Coming To A Halt.”** According to Midwest Energy News, “All the companies that had started up and were trying to revolutionize our advanced energy economy in Ohio are feeling the effects’ of SB 310, said company president Steve Melink. ‘Solar projects are coming to a halt’ in Ohio, he noted. ‘We don’t see more projects being developed at this point that I’m aware of.’” [Midwest Energy News, [9/18/14](#)]
- **Melink: “It Shows, I Think, That Ohio Is Heading Backwards.”** According to Midwest Energy News, “‘Indianapolis, a city just two hours away in driving time from Columbus and Cincinnati, is one of the largest markets for solar,’ Melink noted. The company has just completed two large projects there, which were supported by a feed-in tariff. ‘And here in Ohio we’re saying oh, we can’t do it,’ Melink added. ‘It shows, I think, that Ohio is heading backwards.’” [Midwest Energy News, [9/18/14](#)]

OHIO RANKED FIFTH IN A LIST OF STATES WITH THE “DIRTIEST AIR” FROM POLLUTION FROM COAL AND POWER PLANTS

Ohio Ranked Fifth “In A New List Of States With The Dirtiest Air” For Carbon Pollution In 2014. According to Public News Service, “The Buckeye State ranks fifth in the nation in a new list of states with the dirtiest air. According to the Environment Ohio Research and Policy Center, Ohio’s power plants spew as much carbon into the atmosphere as the entire nation of Kuwait. [...] The report also looked at the dirtiest plants in the nation, and rated American Electric Power’s Gavin plant in Southeast Ohio as the sixth worst for carbon pollution.” [Public News Service, [9/19/14](#)]

Ohio Ranked First Nationally In Power Plant-Related Mortality In 2012, With 8.9 Deaths Per 100,000 Adults.

According to the Clean Air Task Force, Ohio ranked first nationally in power plant-related mortality in 2014, with 8.9 deaths per 100,000 adults. [Clean Air Task Force, accessed [8/17/15](#)]

The Impact Of Power Plant Pollution In Ohio In 2010 Was 1,221 Deaths And 835 Hospital Admissions. According to the Clean Air Task Force’s The Toll From Coal report, the impact of power plant pollution in Ohio in 2010 was 1,221 deaths and 835 hospital admissions. [Toll From Coal Report – Clean Air Task Force, [9/10](#)]

Ohio Had The “Most Toxic Air Pollution From Coal And Oil Power Plants” In 2011. According to Live Science, “Ohio, Pennsylvania and Florida are the states with the most toxic air pollution from coal and oil power plants, according to a new report by an environmental advocacy group. The Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC) used Environmental Protection Agency data to rank the top 20 worst states for air pollution from power plants. According to the report, half of all air pollution from industrial sources in the United States comes from coal- and oil-fired power plants. According to the NRDC, here are the 20 most toxic states, from worst to best: 1. Ohio.” [LiveScience.com, [7/20/11](#)]

Economists Robert Mendelsohn And Nicholas Muller: Air Pollution Costs The U.S. Economy “\$75 - \$280 Billion Annually.” According to a post by economists Robert Mendelsohn and Nicholas Muller for Resources for the Future, “The major pollutants first regulated by the Clean Air Act are still causing substantial damages in the United States, particularly to human health. Specifically, ammonia and the five criteria pollutants - fine and coarse particulates, sulfur dioxide, nitrogen dioxide, and volatile organic compounds - currently cause damages that range from \$75 - \$280 billion annually. Here we will explain how these damages are estimated, what sources are responsible for the damages, and compare them with estimates of the damages from greenhouse gases (GHGs). Economists measure the impacts of air pollution using integrated assessment models that logically connect emissions to their final effects on society.” [Robert Mendelsohn and Nicholas Muller - Resources for the Future, [12/17/07](#)]

Koch Groups Opposed Regulations That Safeguard The Environment

AFP-OHIO URGED THE STATE TO REFUSE TO COMPLY WITH THE EPA’S CLEAN POWER PLAN

AFP-Ohio Deputy State Director Baylor Myers: The Ohio State Assembly Should “Pass Legislation Halting Our State’s Compliance” With The EPA’s Clean Power Plan. According to an opinion by AFP-Ohio Deputy state director Baylor Myers for Cincinnati.com, “Ohio’s state government wasted no time last year in suing the Obama administration over its ‘Clean Power Plan,’ a new federal regulation forcing our state to drastically cut greenhouse gas emissions. Attorney General Mike DeWine rightfully argued that the regulation is illegal and unaffordable – comments that have since been echoed by a number of Ohio policymakers, the Public Utility Commission, and even our state Environmental Protection Agency. But one voice is deafeningly silent thus far: the Ohio General Assembly. It’s time for them to speak up. With the 2015 legislative session under way, our elected representatives should immediately pass legislation halting our state’s compliance with this regulation unless and until the Obama administration proves that its demands are legally and constitutionally acceptable.” [Baylor Myers – Cincinnati.com, [2/2/15](#)]

- **Myers: The CPP Is “Essentially A Federal Takeover Of Our State’s Electricity Grid.”** According to an opinion by AFP-Ohio Deputy state director Baylor Myers for Cincinnati.com, “The regulation – proposed last summer by the Environmental Protection Agency – is essentially a federal takeover of our state’s electricity grid. It directs Ohio to cut its emissions by 29 percent by 2030. These cuts will be especially harmful to a state like ours that receives over 80 percent of its electricity from fossil fuels, which are the administration’s primary targets. [...] Ohio state legislators should waste no time in adding their voice to this growing chorus – and up the ante by passing legislation protecting taxpayers. Specifically, they should pass a law prohibiting the use of state funds to comply with the EPA’s regulation unless and until the agency can establish that its actions are legal. This could be one of the most important pieces of legislation that Ohio considers all year.” [Baylor Myers – Cincinnati.com, [2/2/15](#)]

AFP Policy Director Mac Zimmerman On The EPA’s Clean Power Plan: Low-Income And African American Households “Would Be The Hardest Hit.” According to an opinion by AFP Policy Director Mac Zimmerman for Investor’s Business Daily, “Other studies abound showing the true regressive nature of the president’s regulatory scheme. Analyzing the disproportional impact the regulations would have on Ohio’s low-income and African-American populations, the Pacific Research Institute found that these households would be the hardest hit, with the cost of electricity accounting for over one quarter of household incomes. Contrast that with the effect on more affluent Ohio households whose costs would rise from 0.8% to just 1.1% of their incomes. The study went on to conclude that the regulations will exacerbate the economic challenges confronting African-American families, inevitably pushing more families into energy poverty.” [Mac Zimmerman – Investor’s Business Daily, [2/19/15](#)]

Zimmerman: “The Clean Power Plan Is Expected To Hike Electricity Rates By Up To 17% Nationwide — And Over 20% In Some States.” According to an opinion by AFP Policy Director Mac Zimmerman for Investor’s Business Daily, “The Obama administration is now putting the finishing touches on a raft of environmental regulations due in the coming months, including the Clean Power Plan and others that will drastically impact the affordability of energy in America. Yet while the president and his supporters speak benevolently of protecting the health and welfare of Americans, these regulations will achieve exactly the opposite. The obvious impact of these regulations is the higher electricity costs it will impose on all Americans. The Clean Power Plan is expected to hike electricity rates by up to 17% nationwide — and over 20% in some states.” [Mac Zimmerman – Investor’s Business Daily, [2/19/15](#)]

AFP Blamed “Unreasonable Regulations” For The Closure Of Power Plants In Ohio And Warned Of More “Unreasonable Regulations” In The Form Of The Clean Power Plan

Myers Said Closures Of Two Coal-Based Power Plants In Ohio And The Layoff Of 250 Employees Were “Owed In Part To The Slew Of Unreasonable Regulations” From The Obama Administration’s EPA. According to an opinion by AFP-Ohio State Director Baylor Myers for The Columbus Dispatch, “Recently, American Electric Power, which provides electricity to 1.5 million Ohioans, announced the closure of seven coal-based power plants in the region, including two in Ohio, and the layoff of 250 employees. Anti-energy activists were quick to issue press releases praising these closures, which are owed in part to the slew of unreasonable regulations coming out of the Obama administration’s Environmental Protection Agency.” [Baylor Myers – Columbus Dispatch, [4/30/15](#)]

- **Myers: “Anti-Energy Activists Were Quick To Issue Press Releases Praising These Closures... Less Cheerful Are The 250 Families Who Soon Will Have No Incomes.”** According to an opinion by AFP-Ohio State Director Baylor Myers for The Columbus Dispatch, “Recently, American Electric Power, which provides electricity to 1.5 million Ohioans, announced the closure of seven coal-based power plants in the region, including two in Ohio, and the layoff of 250 employees. Anti-energy activists were quick to issue press releases praising these closures, which are owed in part to the slew of unreasonable regulations coming out of the Obama administration’s Environmental Protection Agency. Less cheerful are the 250 families who soon will have no incomes. It could have been a family like mine, lifelong Ohioans and descendants of coal miners. So, too, should be the millions of Buckeyes whose electricity rates will continue increasing as these regulations force us to abandon affordable energy sources in favor of unaffordable ones such as wind and solar.” [Baylor Myers – Columbus Dispatch, [4/30/15](#)]

Myers: “State Lawmakers Can Act To At Least Delay The Centerpiece Of The EPA’s Assault On Affordable Energy — The ‘Clean Power Plan.’” According to an opinion by AFP-Ohio State Director Baylor Myers for The Columbus Dispatch, “All hope is not lost, however. State lawmakers can act to at least delay the centerpiece of the EPA’s assault on affordable energy — the ‘Clean Power Plan.’ This single regulation forces Ohio to cut its greenhouse-gas emissions by 28 percent over the next 15 years. It will threaten the reliability of our energy grid and increase the cost of our utility bills.” [Baylor Myers – Columbus Dispatch, [4/30/15](#)]

Myers: Ohio Was One Of Thirteen States That Sued To Stop The Clean Power Plan “Before It Goes Into Effect.” According to an opinion by AFP-Ohio State Director Baylor Myers for The Columbus Dispatch, “All hope is not lost, however. State lawmakers can act to at least delay the centerpiece of the EPA’s assault on affordable energy — the ‘Clean Power Plan.’ [...] Thirteen states, including Ohio, already are suing to stop the regulation before it goes into effect. Their legal arguments enjoy bipartisan support, with Harvard Law School’s Laurence Tribe — who taught President Barack Obama before going on to serve in his Justice Department — arguing that the plan violates multiple provisions of the U.S. Constitution and federal law.” [Baylor Myers – Columbus Dispatch, [4/30/15](#)]

Myers: “State Lawmakers Should Pass Legislation Prohibiting Our State’s Compliance With The Clean Power Plan Until These Legal Challenges Are Resolved.” According to an opinion by AFP-Ohio State Director Baylor Myers for The Columbus Dispatch, “Thirteen states, including Ohio, already are suing to stop the regulation before it goes into effect. Their legal arguments enjoy bipartisan support, with Harvard Law School’s Laurence Tribe — who taught President Barack Obama before going on to serve in his Justice Department — arguing that the plan violates multiple provisions of the U.S. Constitution and federal law. While this lawsuit winds its way through federal court, which could take years, state lawmakers should pass legislation prohibiting our state’s compliance with the Clean Power Plan until these legal challenges are resolved. This makes sense: We shouldn’t be forced to comply with a federal regulation that may well be struck down by the courts.” [Baylor Myers – Columbus Dispatch, [4/30/15](#)]

Myers: “Cutting Our Emissions By 28 Percent Will Be Exceedingly Difficult For A State Like Ohio,” Which Receives “More Than 60 Percent” Of Electricity From Coal. According to an opinion by AFP-Ohio State Director Baylor Myers for The Columbus Dispatch, “Cutting our emissions by 28 percent will be exceedingly difficult for a state like Ohio that has already made tremendous progress cleaning our air. We currently receive more than 60 percent of our electricity from coal. As the regulation moves closer to full implementation in 2030, we’ll look back at these six AEP plant closures as the good ol’ days.” [Baylor Myers – Columbus Dispatch, [4/30/15](#)]

AFP Participated In An “Ohio Energy Summit Town Hall” To Discuss How “The Environmental Protection Agency Is Working To Destroy The Coal Industry, Especially In Ohio.” According to the Dayton Daily News, “Ohio Treasurer and Republican candidate for U.S. Senate Josh Mandel plans to join state energy industry representatives at an ‘Ohio

Energy Summit Town Hall' today in Troy. The town hall is sponsored by the Miami County Liberty group and will include speakers from Americans for Prosperity, the Ohio Coal Association and the Ohio Petroleum Institute, according to the group's website. The group asserts the Environmental Protection Agency is working to destroy the coal industry, especially in Ohio, thus driving up energy costs and leading to fewer jobs." [Dayton Daily News, 7/10/12]

60 PLUS COMMISSIONED A SURVEY CLAIMING "76% OF OHIO SENIORS ARE AT LEAST 'SOMEWHAT' CONCERNED" ABOUT NEW EPA REGULATIONS

60 Plus Commissioned A Survey In Ohio That Showed That "76% Of Ohio Seniors Are At Least 'Somewhat' Concerned" About New EPA Regulations. According to a 60 Plus Association web post, "A new survey commissioned by the non-partisan 60 Plus Association reveals a strong majority of Ohio senior voters are concerned about the effect that sweeping new EPA regulations on power plants will have on the cost of energy and higher electricity bills. 60 Plus touts the support of 7.2 million senior supporters nationally, including more than 303,000 in the Buckeye state. Findings of the survey show that 76% of Ohio seniors are at least 'somewhat' concerned about the potential for EPA to raise their electricity bills, with a 53% majority saying they are 'extremely' or 'very' concerned." [60Plus.org, [9/18/14](#)]

THE CLEAN POWER PLAN "WOULD REPRESENT THE STRONGEST ACTION EVER TAKEN BY THE UNITED STATES TO COMBAT CLIMATE CHANGE"

New York Times: The EPA's Clean Power Plan "Would Represent The Strongest Action Ever Taken By The United States To Combat Climate Change." According to the New York Times, "President Obama on Monday unveiled the final version of his Clean Power Plan, a set of Environmental Protection Agency regulations that, if implemented, would represent the strongest action ever taken by the United States to combat climate change." [New York Times, [8/3/15](#)]

Climate Change Will Cause Ohioans To Experience "Greater Health Risks From Increasing Dangerous Heat Waves, Storms And Flooding, Waterborne Illnesses, Infectious Diseases, Declining Air Quality, And Drought."

According to the Natural Resources Defense Council, "Ohio's Changing Climate. Average temperatures, rainfall, record floods, and extreme heat are all on the rise. In the future, with climate change, average summer temperatures could rise by 12°F (7°C). 2 Residents will experience greater health risks from increasing dangerous heat waves, storms and flooding, waterborne illnesses, infectious diseases, declining air quality, and drought." [NRDC.org, accessed [8/14/15](#)]

Policies Combatting Climate Change Hurt The Kochs' Bottom Line

"Climate Change Policy Could Negatively Affect Koch Industries' Earnings." According to NPR, "Climate change policy could negatively affect Koch Industries' earnings — the University of Massachusetts Amherst's Political Economy Research Institute found that Koch Industries ranked among the top 30 companies for CO2 emissions in the United States in 2011. Last year, Koch Industries was the top spender for oil and gas lobbying, according to data from the Center for Responsive Politics: It spent \$13.7 million." [NPR, [8/11/15](#)]

Most Of Charles And David Koch's Wealth Comes "From Fossil Fuel-Related Industries." According to NPR, "Conservative billionaires Charles G. and David H. Koch, much of whose wealth comes from fossil fuel-related industries, unveiled their plan earlier this year to spend \$889 million in the 2016 elections through their group Americans for Prosperity. This amount would dwarf what either of the presidential candidates raised in the 2012 general election, according to data from the Center for Responsive Politics." [NPR, [8/11/15](#)]

"The Brothers Successfully Persuaded Many Elected Officials ...To Sign A Pledge That Would 'Oppose Any Legislation Relating To Climate Change That Includes A Net Increase In Government Revenue.'" According to NPR, "The Koch brothers, each worth more than \$40 billion, have been public in their opposition to government intervention to combat climate change. The brothers successfully persuaded many elected officials — including presidential hopefuls Scott Walker, Ted Cruz, Marco Rubio and Rand Paul — to sign a pledge that would 'oppose any legislation relating to climate change that includes a net increase in government revenue.'" [NPR, [8/11/15](#)]

AFP-OHIO SUPPORTED THE PASSAGE OF OHIO HB 8 TO INCREASE FRACKING ON PUBLIC LANDS

AFP-Ohio Supported The Passage Of Ohio HB 8 To Increase “Shale Drilling.” According to an AFP-Ohio press release, “We appreciate Representative Christina Hagan and Representative Timothy Ginter who sponsored this bill and Representatives Andy Thompson and Ron Maag who served as co-sponsors for their recognition of the important role this industry plays in our economy,” said Baylor Myers, Deputy State Director of Americans for Prosperity Ohio. “The entrance of shale drilling has breathed economic life back into many of our rusted regions. We should be thanking these job-creators for exporting their business to the Buckeye state. We applaud the House members who voted to pass HB 8, which will encourage the growth of this emerging energy industry and hope the Senate will soon follow suit.” [AFP-Ohio Press Release, [3/19/15](#)]

- **HB 8 Would “Fast-Track Fracking On Public Lands.”** According to the Columbus Dispatch, “Gov. John Kasich has used the back door to keep fracking out of Ohio state parks and forests. Now, the legislature is trying a side door to fast-track fracking on public lands. A measure prioritized by House Republicans, who dominate the chamber, got a third hearing yesterday on its way to a likely committee vote next week. [...] Under the 2011 law, potential drillers must get permission from a newly created Oil and Gas Commission, complete an environmental study, determine the potential impact on visitors, seek public input and meet other requirements. But Kasich had a change of heart on allowing drilling on public lands and in effect imposed a unilateral moratorium by not appointing members to the commission — meaning that nobody could get an OK to drill in parks. However, under House Bill 8, GOP legislators would bypass the commission, wiping out the fracking prerequisites in the 4-year-old law — and ending the governor’s unofficial moratorium.” [Columbus Dispatch, [3/4/15](#)]
- **The Bill Passed The Ohio House And Was Referred To The Senate Energy And Natural Resources Committee.** According to the Ohio Legislature website, HB8 passed the House and was referred to the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee. [Legislature.Ohio.gov, accessed [7/16/15](#)]

Former AFP Director And Current Director Of Ohio Energy Resource Alliance, Rebecca Heimlich, Advocated For Fracking At An Event Hosted By The Tea Party Group, The New American Patriots. According to the Ashland Times-Gazette, “The prospect of increased drilling in the area has been a topic of conversation at many gatherings in recent months. Last Saturday, tea party group the New American Patriots, brought Rebecca Heimlich and Mike Chadsey of Ohio Energy Resource to speak at a meeting. Chadsey works with Energy in Depth and Heimlich with Ohio Energy Resource Alliance. The two discussed topics related to oil and gas development and sought to dispel ‘myths’ surrounding the process of hydrofracking.” [Ashland Times-Gazette, [4/20/12](#)]

Heimlich “Discussed Topics Related To Oil And Gas Development And Sought To Dispel ‘Myths’ Surrounding The Process Of Hydrofracking.” According to the Ashland Times-Gazette, “The prospect of increased drilling in the area has been a topic of conversation at many gatherings in recent months. Last Saturday, tea party group the New American Patriots, brought Rebecca Heimlich and Mike Chadsey of Ohio Energy Resource to speak at a meeting. Chadsey works with Energy in Depth and Heimlich with Ohio Energy Resource Alliance. The two discussed topics related to oil and gas development and sought to dispel ‘myths’ surrounding the process of hydrofracking.” [Ashland Times-Gazette, [4/20/12](#)]

Heimlich: “We Are Helping To Shape The Public Debate” On Hydraulic Fracturing, “It Is Important For Us To Control The Agenda.” According to the Cleveland Plain Dealer, “Rebecca Heimlich, manager of the American Petroleum Institute’s new educational outreach in Ohio and director of the newly created Ohio Energy Resource Alliance, said she thought her job would be easy. ‘I have never seen such protestors,’ said Heimlich, who previously served as the state director of the national Americans for Prosperity, a conservative advocacy group. ‘Even though we know this (hydraulic fracturing) is not new, people do not know that,’ she said. ‘We are helping shape the public debate. It is important for us to control the agenda.’” [According to the Cleveland Plain Dealer, [3/16/12](#)]

“Scores” Of Earthquakes In Ohio Were Found To Have Been Caused By Fracking

“A Detailed Study” Found That, “Scores Of Quakes That Rattled The Area” Around Oil Wells In Ohio Were Caused By Fracking. According to the New York Times, “Not long after two mild earthquakes jolted the normally steady terrain outside Youngstown, Ohio, last March, geologists quickly decided that hydraulic fracturing operations at new oil-and-gas wells in the area had set off the tremors. Now a detailed study has concluded that the earthquakes were not isolated events, but merely the largest of scores of quakes that rattled the area around the wells for more than a week. The study, published this week in The Bulletin of the Seismological Society of America, indicates that hydraulic fracturing, commonly called fracking, built up subterranean pressures that repeatedly caused slippage in an existing fault as close as a half-mile beneath the wells.” [New York Times, [1/7/15](#)]

“The Number And Intensity Of Fracking-Related Quakes Have Risen As The Practice Has Boomed.” According to the New York Times, “The number and intensity of fracking-related quakes have risen as the practice has boomed. In Oklahoma, for example, quakes have increased sharply in recent years, including the state’s largest ever, a magnitude 5.7 tremor, in 2011. Both state and federal experts have said fracking is contributing to the increase there, not only because of the fracking itself, but also because of the proliferation of related wells into which fracking waste is injected.” [New York Times, [1/7/15](#)]

In Poland Township, Ohio, 77 Fracking Well-Related Earthquakes Occurred In About A Week, “From March 4 To March 12.” According to the New York Times, “In Poland Township, an analysis of seismological data found 77 well-related earthquakes from March 4 to March 12, the four largest of them on March 10. All occurred about 1.9 miles underground, along a horizontal fault that at times ran less than a half-mile under wells where fracking was underway. Dr. Brudzinski said the study underscored the need to monitor wells in seismically active areas, something Ohio has since required.” [New York Times, [1/7/15](#)]

Koch Groups Advocated For Legislation Restricting Workers’ Rights

AFP-OHIO ADVOCATED FOR LEGISLATION THAT WOULD “DRAMATICALLY REDUCE” THE BARGAINING RIGHTS OF PUBLIC EMPLOYEES’ UNIONS

Americans For Prosperity President Tim Phillips: AFP Worked With State Officials In Ohio To “Urge Them To Take Similar Steps To Curtail Union Benefits” As Wisconsin Did. According to The New York Times, “Tim Phillips, the president of Americans for Prosperity, told a large group of counterprotesters who had gathered Saturday at one edge of what otherwise was a mostly union crowd that the cuts were not only necessary, but they also represented the start of a much-needed nationwide move to slash public-sector union benefits. [...] ‘We thought it was important to do,’ Mr. Phillips said, adding that his group is already working with activists and state officials in Indiana, Ohio and Pennsylvania to urge them to take similar steps to curtail union benefits or give public employees the power to opt out of unions entirely.” [New York Times, [2/21/11](#)]

Americans For Prosperity Supported Ohio’s Anti-Union Legislation And The Subsequent Referendum In 2011

Ohio Passed Legislation, Senate Bill 5, That Would “Dramatically Reduce” The Bargaining Rights Of Public Employees’ Unions. According to CBS News in an article titled “Ohio Senate Bill 5 Passes, Restricting Unions,” “The bargaining rights of public workers in Ohio would be dramatically reduced and strikes would be banned under a bill narrowly passed by the state Senate on Wednesday. The Republican-backed measure that would restrict the collective bargaining rights of roughly 350,000 teachers, firefighters, police officers and other public employees squeaked through the state Senate on a 17-16 vote. Six Republicans sided with Democrats against the measure. Firefighters and teachers shouted ‘Shame!’ in the chamber as the legislation was approved and moved on to the Republican-controlled House, where it is likely to receive strong support.” [CBS News, [3/2/11](#)]

Ohio’s “Senate Bill 5 Would Strip Public Employees Of Collective Bargaining Rights.” According to CBS News, “Supporters of Senate Bill 5 waves signs outside the Ohio Statehouse, March 2, 2011, in Columbus, Ohio. Senate Bill 5 would strip public employees of collective bargaining rights.” [CBS News, [3/2/11](#)]

- **The Law Would Also “Ban Strikes By Public Workers” And Give “Elected Officials The Final Say In Contract Disagreements.”** According to CBS News, “The Ohio bill would ban strikes by public workers and establish penalties for those who do participate in walkouts. Unionized workers could negotiate wages, hours and certain work conditions but not health care, sick time or pension benefits. The measure would do away with automatic pay raises and base future wage increases on merit. The legislation would also set up a new process to settle worker disputes, giving elected officials the final say in contract disagreements. Binding arbitration, which police officers and firefighters use to resolve contract disputes as an alternative to strikes, would be eliminated.” [CBS News, [3/2/11](#)]
- **Gov. John Kasich Signed The Legislation Into Law “A Day After The Measure Was Approved By The State House And Senate.”** According to CBS News, “Ohio’s governor on Thursday signed into law a limit on the collective bargaining rights of 350,000 public workers, defying Democrats and other opponents of the measure who have promised

to push for repeal. Gov. John Kasich's signature came a day after the measure was approved by the state House and Senate, which are led by his fellow Republicans. Opponents have vowed to put the issue on the November ballot, giving voters a chance to strike down the law. Unions plan to hit the streets and help gather signatures.” [CBS News, [3/31/11](#)]

Former AFP-Ohio Director And Lobbyist Rebecca Heimlich Lobbied On SB 5. According to the Ohio Office of the Legislative Inspector General, Rebecca Heimlich lobbied on bills including SB 5 “Collective Bargaining Revisions.” [Office of the Legislative Inspector General, accessed [7/13/15](#)]

While ALEC Claimed To Have No Direct Involvement, SB 5 Seemed To Be Based On ALEC Model Legislation

Center for Media and Democracy: “ALEC Model Bills Have Served As The Template” For Ohio’s “Anti-Worker” Legislation. According to the Center for Media and Democracy’s PR Watch, “CMD has called ALEC a ‘corporate bill mill’ because it facilitates companies like Wal-Mart and special interests like the NRA putting their wish lists in the hands of state legislators and having their desires ratified as model bills to pass in statehouses around the country. In addition to the Florida bill that ALEC and the NRA call the ‘Castle Doctrine Act,’ ALEC model bills have served as the template for ‘voter ID’ laws that swept the country in 2011, for the ‘voucher’ programs that privatize public education, for anti-environmental bills, anti-immigrant legislation, and for the wave of anti-worker legislation pushed over the past year in Wisconsin, Ohio, New Hampshire, Indiana, and most recently, in Arizona.” [Center for Media and Democracy PR Watch, [3/27/12](#)]

Center for Media and Democracy: “Kasich And Other Ohio Republicans Who Supported SB 5 Received At Least \$563,000 In Campaign Contributions From ALEC Corporations In 2010.” According to the Center for Media and Democracy’s PR Watch, “Ohio was one of several states that passed suspiciously similar union-busting legislation in 2011. Gov. Kasich, like Wisconsin Governor Scott Walker, is an alumnus of the American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC), a group that brings state legislators and corporate leaders together to draft ‘model bills’ that advance the right-wing corporate agenda. According to Common Cause, Kasich and other Ohio Republicans who supported SB 5 received at least \$563,000 in campaign contributions from ALEC corporations in 2010 (not counting contributions from the Republican Governor’s Association, to which some ALEC supporters also donated -- notably including \$1 million from David Koch (as examined by the Center for Media and Democracy in the article ‘Scott Walker Runs on Koch Money’).” [Center for Media and Democracy PR Watch, [10/28/11](#)]

ALEC Claimed It Had Nothing To Do With SB 5. According to Cleveland.com, “A nonprofit Washington-DC based association for conservative state legislators is being touted as the brains behind efforts in Ohio and other states to curb the collective bargaining powers of public employees. Despite claims from labor leaders like AFL-CIO President Richard Trumka and bloggers that the 2,000-member American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC) is behind Ohio’s Senate Bill 5 and similar efforts in other states, the group says it has nothing to do with the measures.” [Cleveland.com, [4/3/11](#)]

“The Author Of SB 5, Republican Sen. Shannon Jones Of Springboro, Says She Drafted The Bill Herself.” According to Cleveland.com, “The author of SB 5, Republican Sen. Shannon Jones of Springboro, says she drafted the bill herself after a year of work, and is unaware of any coordinated effort by ALEC or anyone else to pass similar legislation elsewhere. “To the extent that there are similarities between bills, that this is happening all over the country, it is because states have run out of money and we need to change the structure that drives the costs of government upwards,’ says Jones.” [Cleveland.com, [4/3/11](#)]

- **Sen. Jones Was A Member Of ALEC In 2011 and 2012.** According to the report “ALEC in Ohio” by People for the American Way, Common Cause, Progress Ohio, and the Center for Media and Democracy, and ALEC emails, Sen. Shannon Jones was a member of ALEC in 2011 and 2012. [PFAW.org, [2/7/12](#) ALEC emails viewed [8/12/15](#)]

SB 5 Was “Overwhelmingly Rejected” By Ohio Voters, Despite The Efforts Of AFP And Other Conservative Groups

SB5 Was Repealed By Ohio Voters After A Campaign That Was “Among The Most Expensive Ever Waged Over A Ballot Initiative.” According to Politico, “Unions hung a humbling defeat on Kasich, who has fast become his party’s poster boy for conservative overreach, by rolling back Senate Bill 5, a new collective bargaining law that bars public sector strikes, curtails bargaining rights for 360,000 public employees and scraps binding arbitration of management-labor disputes. [...] The contest over SB 5 - also called Issue 2 - was among the most expensive ever waged over a ballot initiative in the state with unions and conservative groups, including Citizens United, pouring in more than \$50 million collectively.” [Politico, [11/8/11](#)]

- **SB 5 Was Put On The November 2011 Ballot As A Voter Referendum.** According to the Huffington Post, “Ohio follows Wisconsin and New Jersey as the latest battleground in the war between Republican governors and labor unions over collective bargaining. Differing from the recall approach in Wisconsin, Ohio unions have banded together to utilize a little-known Ohio referendum law to put the fate of the state's collective bargaining law -- Senate Bill 5 -- on the November ballot. Ohio law allows for a statewide referendum on laws passed by the governor and legislature if enough petitions signatures are gathered. Ohio unions gathered 1.3 million signatures -- a million more than the needed amount to put the measure on the ballot. Voters are being asked to decide the fate of a bill that eliminates collective bargaining regarding benefits for public employees, and that Gov. John Kasich (R) has said is central to his ability to control the state budget.” [Huffington Post, [9/21/11](#)]

AFP-Ohio Raised Money To “Conduct Its Own Door-To-Door Grass-Roots Campaign To Sell The Merits Of Senate Bill 5 To Voters.” According to the Toledo Blade, “The Ohio chapter of the Washington-based Americans for Prosperity is raising money to conduct its own door-to-door grass-roots campaign to sell the merits of Senate Bill 5 to voters before the Nov. 8 election. ‘We’ll be working together, but not technically together. We’ll be sharing information and working toward the same goal,’ said Rebecca Heimlich, state director of the tax-exempt, nonprofit corporation. ‘We’ve had our plans for a while and have started fund-raising. We talked to [supporters of Senate Bill 5] a couple of weeks ago, and we will continue to communicate.’” [Toledo Blade, [5/31/11](#)]

- **Former AFP-Ohio State Director Rebecca Heimlich Claimed That “The Money Is Largely Coming From Ohio Donors, Although She’d Be Happy To Take A Check From Outside The State.”** According to the Toledo Blade, “The official pro-Senate Bill 5 committee will have to report where it gets its money and how it spends it to the secretary of state. But while the conservative Americans for Prosperity, founded by brothers David and Charles Koch, will have to report its spending, it will not have to divulge the sources of its money. So far, Ms. Heimlich said the money is largely coming from Ohio donors, although she’d be happy to take a check from outside the state.” [Toledo Blade, [5/31/11](#)]

Cleveland Plain Dealer: “Ohio Voters Dealt A Sharp Rebuke To First-Year Gov. John Kasich And His Conservative Agenda...By Overwhelmingly Rejecting The Restrictive New Collective Bargaining Law He Championed.”

According to the Cleveland Plain Dealer, “Ohio voters dealt a sharp rebuke to first-year Gov. John Kasich and his conservative agenda Tuesday by overwhelmingly rejecting the restrictive new collective bargaining law he championed. ‘It’s clear the people have spoken,’ the humbled Republican leader said from the Statehouse. ‘I heard their voices. I understand their decision. And frankly, I respect what the people have to say in an effort like this. And as a result of that, it requires me to take a deep breath and to spend some time to reflect on what happened here.’” [Cleveland Plain Dealer, [11/8/11](#)]

KOCH GROUPS LATER PUSHED FOR “RIGHT TO WORK” LEGISLATION IN OHIO

AFP Warned That Without Right-To-Work “Job Creators” Would Set Out “For Better Economic Seas”

AFP-Ohio Supported Right To Work Legislation In 2013. According to an AFP-Ohio press release, “Americans for Prosperity – Ohio, the Buckeye state’s leading proponent of worker freedom and free market employment policy, today re-affirmed its support for Right to Work legislation and worker freedom in advance of National Employee Freedom Week. ‘In addition to increasing worker freedom, Right to Work is a major boon to economic competitiveness,’ explained Eli Miller, state director of Americans for Prosperity – Ohio. ‘The longer we wait, the more economic opportunity we risk losing to those states that allow workers the freedom to choose whether or not to join a union or pay union dues.’” [AFP-Ohio Press Release, [6/19/13](#)]

AFP State Director Baylor Myers Opinion Headline: “Right-To-Work Is Right For Ohio.” [Baylor Myers – Dayton Daily News, [4/15/15](#)]

Myers: “The Real Argument For Right-To-Work Is Entirely Economic — And Ohio Should Get On Board Before We’re Left Behind.” According to an op-ed by AFP state director Baylor Myers for the Dayton Daily News, “Wisconsin became the nation’s 25th right-to-work state last month, joining our neighbors to the north and west that made similar moves in 2012. For the first time in decades, residents of these states can no longer be forced to join and pay dues to a union as a condition of employment. While this debate is often mired in pro- and anti-union rhetoric, the real argument for right-to-work is entirely economic — and Ohio should get on board before we’re left behind.” [Baylor Myers – Dayton Daily News, [4/15/15](#)]

Myers: It's "Understandable" That Lawmakers "May Be Wary After Voters Overturned Their Public Sector Union Reforms In 2011," But Ohio Should "Join The Right-To-Work Wave Now Rolling Through The Midwest."

According to an op-ed by AFP state director Baylor Meyers for the Dayton Daily News, "Which begs the question: Why wouldn't Ohio want to join the right-to-work wave now rolling through the Midwest? State lawmakers may be wary after voters overturned their public sector union reforms in 2011. While it's understandable that they would approach the issue with caution, the costs of inaction will only compound over time." [Baylor Meyers – Dayton Daily News, [4/15/15](#)]

Myers: "Making Ohio Right-To-Work Could Prevent Our State's Job Creators From Setting Out For Better Economic Seas." According to an op-ed by AFP state director Baylor Meyers for the Dayton Daily News, "This is especially true for our state's steel industry, which currently supports 100,000 Buckeye jobs and has an economic impact totaling \$7.2 billion per year. As the benefits of right-to-work continue accruing in our neighboring states of Michigan and Indiana, and now our regional competitor Wisconsin, many of our manufacturers will face increasing pressure to relocate within their borders. Making Ohio right-to-work could prevent our state's job creators from setting out for better economic seas." [Baylor Meyers – Dayton Daily News, [4/15/15](#)]

Koch-Connected Buckeye Institute Also Advocated For "Right-To-Work" In Ohio

The Buckeye Institute Has Received \$38,281 From Koch Foundations From 2005-2009. According to Conservative Transparency, the Buckeye Institute for Public Policy Solutions received \$28,281 from the Charles G. Koch Charitable Foundation from 2007-2009 and \$10,000 from the Claude R. Lambe Charitable Foundation in 2005. [Conservative Transparency, accessed [8/14/15](#)]

Buckeye Institute Policy Analyst Greg Lawson: "In Ohio And Other Forced Union States," Workers' "Rights And Freedoms Are Thwarted And Imperiled By Labor Leaders." According to an op-ed by Buckeye Institute policy analyst Greg Lawson for the Cincinnati Enquirer, "Unfortunately, in Ohio and other forced union states, those rights and freedoms are thwarted and imperiled by labor leaders who insist upon penalizing working citizens with dues and fees to support their own agendas and pet projects. And if the working woman disagrees with the union agenda? Doesn't matter – pay up. And if the working man doesn't support the union's politics? Doesn't matter – pay up. And what if the union intends to contribute to campaigns and candidates that workers disagree with or don't want to support? Doesn't matter. The union collects the dues, the leaders choose how to spend it, and there's not much that a worker can do about it." [Greg Lawson - Cincinnati Enquirer, [8/30/14](#)]

Lawson: "Right-To-Work' Laws Protect The Rights Of All Workers To Choose Whether To Pay For Big Labor's Pet Political Preferences With Which They Disagree, And Exercise This Choice Without Fearing Reprisal."

According to an op-ed by Buckeye Institute policy analyst Greg Lawson for the Cincinnati Enquirer, "Even other blue-collar states like Michigan and Indiana have recently moved to right this wrong and bring choice to their citizens. 'Right-to-work' laws protect the rights of all workers to choose whether to pay for Big Labor's pet political preferences with which they disagree, and exercise this choice without fearing reprisal. Becoming a right-to-work state doesn't mean that Ohio won't have labor unions, or that workers couldn't organize. It simply means that Ohio's workers, both union and non-union, would have a choice over their hard-earned paychecks." [Greg Lawson - Cincinnati Enquirer, [8/30/14](#)]

Lawson: Buckeye Institute's 2012 Report, "Ohio Right To Work: How The Economic Freedom Of Workers Enhances Prosperity," Found An Average Family Would Earn "Approximately \$12,000 More Per Year" Under Right To Work. According to an op-ed by Buckeye Institute policy analyst Greg Lawson for the Cincinnati Enquirer, "But workers in right-to-work states don't just have more jobs to choose from; they tend to make more money, too. As Richard Vedder estimated in The Buckeye Institute's 2012 report, 'Ohio Right to Work: How the Economic Freedom of Workers Enhances Prosperity,' the average family of four would have earned approximately \$12,000 more per year if Ohio had become a right-to-work state in 1977." [Greg Lawson - Cincinnati Enquirer, [8/30/14](#)]

Lawson Praised ALEC's Influence On Ohio: "Ohio Only Started Making The Changes ALEC Recommended In Recent Years." According to the Dayton Daily News, "Greg Lawson, policy analyst for the conservative Buckeye Institute think tank, said policies pushed by ALEC are starting to show results in Ohio. 'Quite frankly, Ohio only started making the changes ALEC recommended in recent years,' he said. 'It's a little premature to be making some of these judgments until the policies are fully implemented. We're only now beginning to see the impact.'" [Dayton Daily News, [12/2/12](#)]

GOV. JOHN KASICH FOLLOWED THE KOCH PLAYBOOK BY RESCINDING UNION RIGHTS FOR HOME HEALTH-CARE AND CHILD-CARE WORKERS

Cleveland.com Headline: “John Kasich Halts Union Rights For Home Health-Care, Child-Care Workers.”
[Cleveland.com, [5/23/15](#)]

Kasich Rescinded Executive Orders Signed By Former Gov. Ted Strickland That Granted Independent Home Health-Care And In-Home Child-Care Workers Collective Bargaining Rights In Ohio. According to Cleveland.com, “Independent home health-care and in-home child-care workers who do business with the state are no longer eligible for collective bargaining with the state, under an executive order issued Friday by Gov. John Kasich. Kasich's order, which rescinds a pair of executive orders signed by former Gov. Ted Strickland in 2007 and 2008, states that the workers, who are not state employees, today have more opportunities to obtain health insurance.” [Cleveland.com, [5/23/15](#)]

Kasich's Move To Rescind Strickland's Executive Order Allowing Home Health-Care And Child-Care Workers To Unionize Affected “Roughly 15,000 Workers.” According to the Cincinnati Enquirer, “Gov. John Kasich says he still believes Ohio doesn't need a right-to-work law, even though he last week rescinded union rights for roughly 15,000 health-care and child-care workers. [...] Kasich's move last week affected self-employed home-health-care and child-care workers who contract with the state, but aren't considered state employees. In a pair of executive orders, former Gov. Ted Strickland, a Democrat, had allowed those workers to unionize and bargain with the state as regular state employees do – an argument that ‘has always been on shaky ground,’ Kasich spokesman Rob Nichols said in a statement.” [Cincinnati Enquirer, [6/4/15](#)]

THE KOCHS' PUSH TO RESTRICT UNIONS WOULD HAVE HURT OHIO WORKERS

Ohio Had “About 615,000” Union Members In 2014, And Ranked Seventh “Among States With The Highest Union Membership.” According to the Cleveland Plain Dealer, “Ohio's union membership rate at 12.4 percent was above the national average. With about 615,000 union members, Ohio ranked seventh - tied with Michigan and New Jersey - among states with the highest union membership. In 2014, Ohio had nearly 5 million salaried workers in the labor force.” [Cleveland Plain Dealer, [1/26/15](#)]

A 2008 Report By The Center For Economic And Policy Research Found That “Unionization Reduces Inequality And Significantly Boosts The Wages Of Low-Wage Workers In Ohio And The United States.” According to a press release from Policy Matters Ohio, “After decades of disappointing wage growth and startling inequality increases, a new report from the Center for Economic and Policy Research (CEPR), released locally by Policy Matters Ohio, shows that unionization reduces inequality and significantly boosts the wages of low-wage workers in Ohio and the United States. The Union Advantage for Low-Wage Workers finds that unionization raises the wages of the typical low-wage worker by 20.6 percent nationwide and by 14.7 percent in Ohio. The report defines a typical low-wage worker as one who earns more than what 10 percent of workers earn and less than what 90 percent of workers earn. Unions also raise wages at the middle and top of the wage distribution, but the report found that effects for low-wage workers were larger.” [Policy Matters Ohio Press Release, [5/15/08](#)]

- **CEPR Found That “Unionization Raises The Wages Of The Typical Low-Wage Worker...By 14.7 Percent In Ohio.”** According to a press release from Policy Matters Ohio, “After decades of disappointing wage growth and startling inequality increases, a new report from the Center for Economic and Policy Research (CEPR), released locally by Policy Matters Ohio, shows that unionization reduces inequality and significantly boosts the wages of low-wage workers in Ohio and the United States. The Union Advantage for Low-Wage Workers finds that unionization raises the wages of the typical low-wage worker by 20.6 percent nationwide and by 14.7 percent in Ohio. The report defines a typical low-wage worker as one who earns more than what 10 percent of workers earn and less than what 90 percent of workers earn. Unions also raise wages at the middle and top of the wage distribution, but the report found that effects for low-wage workers were larger.” [Policy Matters Ohio Press Release, [5/15/08](#)]

A 2015 Study By The Economic Policy Institute Found That Wages In Right To Work States “Are 3.1 Percent Lower Than Those In Non-RTW States.” According to the Economic Policy Institute, “Wages in RTW [right to work] states are 3.1 percent lower than those in non-RTW states, after controlling for a full complement of individual demographic and

socioeconomic factors as well as state macroeconomic indicators. This translates into RTW being associated with \$1,558 lower annual wages for a typical full-time, full-year worker.” [Economic Policy Institute, [4/22/15](#)]

Koch Groups Opposed Increasing The Minimum Wage And Held Rallies For “Economic Freedom”

GENERATION OPPORTUNITY OPPOSED A PROPOSED MINIMUM WAGE INCREASE IN OHIO

In 2015 Generation Opportunity Opposed A Proposed Minimum Wage Increase In Ohio. According to a Generation Opportunity web post, “With a 128-page bill to raise Ohio’s minimum wage to \$10.10 per hour and discussion in Cincinnati to raise the minimum wage to \$15 per hour, the debate that’s been raging across the country for months is gaining new momentum on a state level. [...] Unfortunately, however, setting a high minimum wage for all industries can have unintended consequences that hurt the people and communities they’re meant to help. And that’s going to have a huge impact on young Americans specifically. For instance, raising the national minimum wage to \$10.10 and indexing it to inflation would cost America 500,000 jobs, according to a Congressional Budget Office estimate last year. That’s because the increases would make it more difficult for businesses to hire low-skill workers that need training. Unfortunately, the reality is that it is already difficult for young Americans, from teens to recent college graduates, to get jobs, given our lack of experience against a tough job market.” [GenerationOpportunity.org/articles, [7/23/15](#)]

- **Senate Bill 25, Introduced By Ohio Sen. Kenny Yuko, Would “Increase Ohio's Minimum Wage To \$10.10.”** According to the Cleveland Plain Dealer, “The low-wage workers' movement, which successfully lobbied last year for minimum wage hikes throughout the country, could rally to increase Ohio's minimum wage to \$10.10. Last week, state Sen. Kenny Yuko, Democrat of Richmond Heights, introduced Senate Bill 25 that would give minimum wage workers in Ohio a \$2-an-hour raise in January 2016. The state's minimum wage is currently \$8.10.” [Cleveland Plain Dealer, [2/12/15](#)]
- **Senate Bill 25 Was Referred To The Transportation, Commerce, And Labor Committee.** According to the Ohio Legislature, Senate Bill 25 was referred to the Transportation, Commerce and Labor committee on February 4, 2015. [Legislature.Ohio.gov, accessed [8/11/15](#)]

An Analysis Of A 2013 Proposed Federal Minimum Wage Increase To \$10.10 By Policy Matters Ohio Found That It Would “Bring Jobs, Money To Ohio.” According to Policy Matters Ohio, “Federal bill would bring jobs, money to Ohio. Increasing the federal minimum wage would reduce inequality, keep workers out of poverty, reward work and help our economy. The minimum wage is worth much less than in the past after inflation is considered. This contributes to growing income inequality and makes it harder to stay out of poverty, even with full-time work.” [Policy Matters Ohio, [3/25/13](#)]

- **Policy Matters Ohio: “The Proposed Wage Increase Would Have The Greatest Impact In Ohio For Women, Workers Over 20 Years Old, And People Who Work More Than 20 Hours A Week.”** According to Policy Matters Ohio, “The proposed wage increase would have the greatest impact in Ohio for women, workers over 20 years old, and people who work more than 20 hours a week. Not surprisingly, it would boost the wages of Ohioans living in low-income households more than the wages of higher-earning households. Of those who would be affected by the increase.” [Policy Matters Ohio, [3/25/13](#)]
- **Policy Matters Ohio: The Wage Increase “Would Boost The Wages Of Ohioans Living In Low-Income Households.”** According to Policy Matters Ohio, “The proposed wage increase would have the greatest impact in Ohio for women, workers over 20 years old, and people who work more than 20 hours a week. Not surprisingly, it would boost the wages of Ohioans living in low-income households more than the wages of higher-earning households. Of those who would be affected by the increase.” [Policy Matters Ohio, [3/25/13](#)]

AFP HELD A “RALLY FOR ECONOMIC FREEDOM” IN COLUMBUS, OHIO AS PART OF ITS “OBAMA’S FAILING AGENDA” TOUR.

AFP Held A “Rally For Economic Freedom” In Columbus, Ohio As Part Of Its “Obama’s Failing Agenda” Tour. According to an AFP web post, “Today Americans for Prosperity (AFP) announced the Rally for Economic Freedom

featuring a special performance by the multi-platinum selling American rock band 3 Doors Down. The rally will also feature special guest speakers Laura Ingraham, Rusty Humphries, Tony Katz, and AFP President Tim Phillips. The event will be a major highlight of AFP's ongoing 'Obama's Failing Agenda' tour, and will feature all three AFP tour buses. 'This is a can't miss event! Americans for Prosperity is incredibly excited to share our message of liberty and individual freedom with some phenomenal entertainers,' said Tim Phillips, President of AFP. 'With so many Americans struggling in the Obama 'recovery,' this is a great opportunity for some fantastic entertainment combined with the powerful message of economic freedom.' [...] Location: Columbus Convention Center." [AmericansforProsperity.org, [9/28/12](#)]

AFP-Ohio Announced It Would Host An "Insight Into Action Webinar" With American Spectator Columnist Emily Zanotti, Who Was To Expected Discuss "How To Inject Free Market Principles Into Culture And Everyday Life."

According to a post from AFP-Ohio on Etrigg.com, "Please join Americans for Prosperity-OH Columbus for an Insight into Action Webinar. An evening with Emily Zanotti Emily Zanotti is a columnist for The American Spectator and an associate fellow of the R Street Institute. She is a ten-year veteran of political communications and online journalism based out of Chicago, where she runs her own digital media firm. Emily Zanotti - R Street Institute. Ms. Zanotti will discuss how to inject free market principles into culture and everyday life." [AFP-Ohio Post via Etrigg.com, Accessed [5/11/15](#)]

AFP-Ohio State Director Baylor Myers: President Obama Said The Unemployment Rate Was At 5.5 Percent, But When Counting The Underemployment Rate, That Number "Nearly Doubles To 11 Percent." According to an opinion by AFP-Ohio State Director Baylor Myers on Cleveland.com, "President Barack Obama used his in speech at the City Club of Cleveland on Wednesday to try and take credit for the recent uptick in jobs and the U.S. economy. In typical fashion, he pointed to a falling unemployment rate of 5.5 percent and 60 consecutive months of employment growth as evidence that his policies -- which he now dubs 'middle-class economics' -- are getting America back on track. [...] Unfortunately for millions of middle-class Americans -- including many here in Cleveland and throughout the Buckeye State -- these top-line figures are only half the story. The other half is the number of Americans who are employed but can only find part-time work. This is a hallmark of the Obama economy. When counting these individuals with the unemployed -- collectively called the 'underemployment rate' -- that 5.5 percent nearly doubles to 11 percent. This means that more than one in ten cannot find full-time work." [Baylor Myers – Cleveland.com, [3/20/15](#)]

Myers: Ohioans "Are Lucky" That Middle Class Incomes "Are Essentially The Same As They Were Six Years Ago," But Across The Country They "Are Nearly \$2,000 Lower Than When President Obama Took Office." According to an opinion by AFP-Ohio State Director Baylor Myers on Cleveland.com, "Evidence abounds of the toll this is taking on middle-class families, the starkest of which is our stagnant incomes. Ohioans are lucky -- if you can call it that -- that ours are essentially the same as they were six years ago. Across the country, middle-class incomes are nearly \$2,000 lower than when President Obama took office." [Baylor Myers – Cleveland.com, [3/20/15](#)]

Myers: The Labor Force Participation Rate "At 62.8 Percent Is Roughly Where It Was When Jimmy Carter Was President." According to an opinion by AFP-Ohio State Director Baylor Myers on Cleveland.com, "Even more concerning are the millions of Americans who have simply given up hope and quit looking for work. This is evidenced in our labor force participation rate, which at 62.8 percent is roughly where it was when Jimmy Carter was president." [Baylor Myers – Cleveland.com, [3/20/15](#)]

Myers: "Economists Estimate That We Are Still 2.8 Million Full-Time Jobs Away From Full Employment Nationwide." According to an opinion by AFP-Ohio State Director Baylor Myers on Cleveland.com, "Taken together -- unemployment, underemployment, and labor force participation -- economists estimate that we are still 2.8 million full-time jobs away from full employment nationwide. That is a huge hole now six years into an economic 'recovery' that has been full of promises but light on relief." [Baylor Myers – Cleveland.com, [3/20/15](#)]

Myers: "Federal Regulations Now Cost American Businesses \$1.9 Trillion A Year In Compliance Costs -- More Than 10 Percent Of Our Economy." According to an opinion by AFP-Ohio State Director Baylor Myers on Cleveland.com, "Another culprit is the unprecedented growth in federal regulations under the Obama administration. Last year alone, federal agencies in Washington proposed more than 79,000 pages of regulations that would cost the U.S. economy \$181.5 billion a year. In 2013 it was even worse -- \$250 billion in red tape. All told, federal regulations now cost American businesses \$1.9 trillion a year in compliance costs -- more than 10 percent of our economy." [Baylor Myers – Cleveland.com, [3/20/15](#)]

Myers: President Obama's "Economic Agenda Would Push Deficits Back North Of \$1 Trillion In Coming Years And Balloon Our National Debt To \$20 Trillion By 2018." According to an opinion by AFP-Ohio State Director Baylor

Myers on Cleveland.com, “Despite all this, President Obama proposed to continue the same tax-and-spend policies that have gotten us where we are today. His budget proposal released last month calls for record new spending -- \$4 trillion in total, which is \$74 billion above the caps he agreed to with congressional Republicans just four years go. He called for \$1 trillion in new taxes -- again, nothing new. Ultimately, his economic agenda would push deficits back north of \$1 trillion in coming years and balloon our national debt to \$20 trillion by 2018.” [Baylor Myers – Cleveland.com, [3/20/15](#)]

Koch Groups Opposed The Reauthorization Of The Export-Import Bank

AFP-OHIO: THE EXPORT-IMPORT BANK IS A “CORPORATE WELFARE SLUSH FUND”

AFP-Ohio State Director Baylor Myers: Ex-Im Bank Supported “Only 0.7 Percent Of Ohio's Exports.” According to an opinion by AFP-Ohio State Director Baylor Maylors on Cincinnati.com, “No wonder: Many lawmakers now recognize Ex-Im as the corporate welfare slush fund that it is. In theory, the bank is supposed to use taxpayer money to boost American exports. In reality, it spends tens of billions of our hard-earned tax dollars propping up a tiny number of multinational corporations with massive profit margins, supporting only 0.7 percent of Ohio's exports in the process. Rarely will you see a more obvious example of special interests feeding at the taxpayer trough.” [Baylor Myers – Cincinnati.com, [5/12/15](#)]

Myers: Ex-Im's Support For Foreign Airlines “Has Ultimately Cost At Least 7,500 American Jobs.” According to an opinion by AFP-Ohio State Director Baylor Maylors on Cincinnati.com, “Some of this hits close to home – look at Ex-Im's support for foreign airlines. In the Cincinnati area, one of the biggest losers is Delta Airlines, which must compete with Ex-Im-funded airlines in Asia and the Middle East. According to the Air Line Pilots Association, American taxpayers' unwitting support for those airlines has ultimately cost at least 7,500 American jobs.” [Baylor Myers – Cincinnati.com, [5/12/15](#)]

Myers: “According To The Government Accountability Office, A Non-Partisan Federal Agency, Ex-Im Supports A Job In One Industry At The Expense Of A Job In Another.” According to an opinion by AFP-Ohio State Director Baylor Maylors on Cincinnati.com, “It turns out the bank isn't really supporting jobs anyway – and it's actually destroying some, too. According to the Government Accountability Office, a non-partisan federal agency, Ex-Im supports a job in one industry at the expense of a job in another. Ultimately, employment stays the same across the wider economy.” [Baylor Myers – Cincinnati.com, [5/12/15](#)]

Myers On Eliminating Ex-Im Bank: “[Gov. John] Kasich Is On The Right Side Of This Issue. Now It's Time For Boehner To Join Him In Putting Ohio's Interests Above Special Interests.” According to an opinion by AFP-Ohio State Director Baylor Maylors on Cincinnati.com, “It's time for Congress to end this. If our legislators in Washington let the Export-Import Bank expire this summer, they would strike a powerful blow against corporate welfare. [Gov. John] Kasich is on the right side of this issue. Now it's time for Boehner to join him in putting Ohio's interests above special interests.” [Baylor Myers – Cincinnati.com, [5/12/15](#)]

FREEDOM PARTNERS APPLAUDED GOV. JOHN KASICH'S OPPOSITION TO THE EXPORT-IMPORT BANK

Freedom Partners Press Release Headline: “Freedom Partners Applauds Carly Fiorina And Gov. John Kasich's Opposition To Export-Import Bank.” [Freedom Partners Press Release, [5/4/15](#)]

Freedom Partners Spokesman James Davis: “Ex-Im Opponent Carly Fiorina's Entry Into The Presidential Race Adds Yet Another Voice Against The Corporate Welfare That The Bank Has Come To Represent.” According to a press release from Freedom Partners, “Freedom Partners spokesman James Davis issued the following statement regarding the growing consensus opposed to reauthorizing the Export-Import Bank: ‘The growing support to let the Export-Import Bank expire continues to gain steam. Ex-Im opponent Carly Fiorina's entry into the presidential race adds yet another voice against the corporate welfare that the bank has come to represent. Just last week, Ohio Governor John Kasich also expressed clear opposition to the Bank, saying he'd simply “get rid of it.”’” [Freedom Partners Press Release, [5/4/15](#)]

Davis: “Just Last Week, Ohio Governor John Kasich Also Expressed Clear Opposition To The Bank, Saying He'd Simply ‘Get Rid Of It’” According to a press release from Freedom Partners, “Freedom Partners spokesman James Davis issued the following statement regarding the growing consensus opposed to reauthorizing the Export-Import Bank: ‘The

growing support to let the Export-Import Bank expire continues to gain steam. Ex-Im opponent Carly Fiorina's entry into the presidential race adds yet another voice against the corporate welfare that the bank has come to represent. Just last week, Ohio Governor John Kasich also expressed clear opposition to the Bank, saying he'd simply "get rid of it." [Freedom Partners Press Release, [5/4/15](#)]

Davis: "Fiorina And Kasich Join Senators Marco Rubio, Rand Paul And Ted Cruz As Well As Governor Scott Walker And Former Governor Jeb Bush In Standing Up For Taxpayers And Against Corporate Welfare." According to a press release from Freedom Partners, "Freedom Partners spokesman James Davis issued the following statement regarding the growing consensus opposed to reauthorizing the Export-Import Bank: [...] 'Fiorina and Kasich join Senators Marco Rubio, Rand Paul and Ted Cruz as well as Governor Scott Walker and former Governor Jeb Bush in standing up for taxpayers and against corporate welfare. Americans deserve leaders who will fight for them, not for corporate special interests. We urge Congress to stand with the prominent Republican leaders taking a principled stand against Ex-Im instead of with Hillary Clinton, President Obama and the corporate special interests pushing for its reauthorization.'" [Freedom Partners Press Release, [5/4/15](#)]

The Export-Import Bank Was "Vital" To The Success Of Ohio's Small Businesses

U.S. Chamber Of Commerce Headline: "Export-Import Bank Vital To Success Of Ohio's Small Manufacturers." [USChamber.com, [8/13/14](#)]

U.S. Chamber of Commerce: "Ex-Im Supported \$2.4 Billion Worth Of Ohio Exports That In Turn Sustained More Than 15,000 Jobs In The State Between 2007 And 2014." According to a U.S. Chamber of Commerce blog post, "According to the U.S. Department of Commerce, Ohio's exports of manufactured goods rose by nearly 50% from 2009 to 2013, from \$32.3 to \$47.8 billion. This export boom has helped generate thousands of good jobs in a variety of manufacturing sectors and related areas such as transportation and logistics. One important element in this success has been the U.S. Export-Import Bank (Ex-Im), which provides export financing and guarantees in circumstances where commercial banks are unable or unwilling to step in. However, without congressional action, Ex-Im will be forced to shut its doors after its charter expires on September 30. Thousands of Buckeye State jobs could be at risk. Ex-Im supported \$2.4 billion worth of Ohio exports that in turn sustained more than 15,000 jobs in the state between 2007 and 2014." [USChamber.com, [8/13/14](#)]

CEO Of The Aerospace Industries Association David Melcher: "124 Ohio Companies Did \$427 Million Worth Of Business" With The Help Of The Ex-Im Bank. According to an opinion by CEO of the Aerospace Industries Association David Melcher for Cleveland.com, "Last year, 124 Ohio companies did \$427 million worth of business selling transportation equipment, motor vehicle parts, manufactured chemicals, wood products and other goods to foreign purchasers with the help of financial assistance from the Export-Import Bank of the United States. Over an eight-year period, Ex-Im has led to more than \$3 billion in Ohio company export sales." [David Melcher – Cleveland.com, [7/15/15](#)]

Melcher: "124 Ohio Companies Did \$427 Million Worth Of Business" With The Help Of The Ex-Im Bank. According to an opinion by CEO of the Aerospace Industries Association David Melcher for Cleveland.com, "Last year, 124 Ohio companies did \$427 million worth of business selling transportation equipment, motor vehicle parts, manufactured chemicals, wood products and other goods to foreign purchasers with the help of financial assistance from the Export-Import Bank of the United States. Over an eight-year period, Ex-Im has led to more than \$3 billion in Ohio company export sales." [David Melcher – Cleveland.com, [7/15/15](#)]

CEO Of Heath-Newark-Licking County Port Authority Rick Platt: "Should Exim Disappear Forever, It Is Ohio's Economy That Could Suffer The Most." According to an opinion by CEO of Heath-Newark-Licking County Port Authority Rick Platt in Columbus Business First, "Uncertainty abounds about the future of the U.S. Export-Import Bank. Washington uncertainty is sure to hurt the Ohio economy. Should Exim disappear forever, it is Ohio's economy that could suffer the most." [Rick Platt – Columbus Business First, [7/17/15](#)]

Platt: "Small Businesses Are The Biggest Beneficiaries" Of The Exim Bank. According to an opinion by CEO of Heath-Newark-Licking County Port Authority Rick Platt in Columbus Business First, "Big names like Boeing and General Electric are part of a supply chain in Ohio that supports more than 2 percent of our gross state product. Ohio is Boeing's No. 1 supplier state. Thus, Ohioans' jobs, more than those in any other state, are dependent on the success of exports by Boeing and GE. Small businesses are the biggest beneficiaries, however. Screen Machine Industries in Etna is a beneficiary of Exim. Replex Plastics in Mount Vernon is, too. The bank charges fees for its programs and has returned billions of dollars to the U.S. Treasury and helped to reduce the federal deficit." [Rick Platt – Columbus Business First, [7/17/15](#)]

228 Out Of 358 Ohio Businesses That Received Authorization From The Ex-Im Bank Were Small

Businesses. According to the Ex-Im Bank website, 228 out of 358 Ohio businesses that received authorization from the Ex-Im bank were small businesses. [[CustomerMap.ExIm.gov](#), accessed [7/17/15](#)]

Kochs' Local Influence: Opposed State And Local Taxes To Fund Fire And Police Departments, Schools, And The Local Zoo

AFP-OHIO HAS A RECORD OF GETTING INVOLVED IN LOCAL ISSUES IN OHIO

AFP-Ohio President Jack Boyle: "We Like To Get Involved In Local Issues." According to the Mansfield News Journal, "When the last of Jack Boyle's five children was prepping for college, his wife asked him if he was going to take his own advice. 'You've got to move out of Ohio,' were the words Boyle offered for years to his financial advice clients. The reason? Ohio has the fourth highest tax burden in the nation. As director of Americans for Prosperity Ohio, an organization dedicated to limited government and lower taxes, the Cleveland native decided, 'It's our home ... Our life is here. This is Jack's last stand.' [...] 'What we work on are fiscal issues,' Boyle said. 'We like to get involved in local issues.'" [Mansfield News Journal, 1/27/09]

AFP-Ohio Attacked Columbus City Council President Andy Ginther "On Issues Such As Tax Abatements For Wealthy Corporations And Support For An Income Tax Hike" When He Was Up For Reelection. According to This Week Community News, "Andy Ginther was unsurprisingly pleased with election night results May 5. The Columbus City Council president took nearly half the votes cast for four candidates running in the nonpartisan primary. Despite the apparent ease with which he captured nearly 52 percent of the vote, Ginther was under attack from his three opponents and outside money from the Ohio Chapter of Americans for Prosperity, which chided Ginther on issues such as tax abatements for wealthy corporations and support for an income tax hike that makes Columbus' income tax one of the highest in the Midwest." [This Week Community News, [5/11/15](#)]

- **Ginther Won His Primary By "Nearly 52 Percent Of The Vote."** According to This Week Community News, "Andy Ginther was unsurprisingly pleased with election night results May 5. The Columbus City Council president took nearly half the votes cast for four candidates running in the nonpartisan primary. Despite the apparent ease with which he captured nearly 52 percent of the vote, Ginther was under attack from his three opponents and outside money from the Ohio Chapter of Americans for Prosperity, which chided Ginther on issues such as tax abatements for wealthy corporations and support for an income tax hike that makes Columbus' income tax one of the highest in the Midwest." [This Week Community News, [5/11/15](#)]

AFP Fought A Ballot Measure To "Increase Upper Arlington's City Income Tax From 2 Percent To 2.5 Percent."

According to ThisWeek Community News, "If money talks, Americans for Prosperity hopes Upper Arlington residents are listening. The Virginia-based political action committee supported by billionaire brothers Charles and David Koch inserted itself into city politics Aug. 13 when it released a statement opposing a Nov. 4 ballot issue that would, if passed, increase Upper Arlington's city income tax from 2 percent to 2.5 percent. Americans for Prosperity did not return calls last week seeking comment as to why the group has become interested in the Upper Arlington tax issue. However, Eli Miller, state director for Americans for Prosperity Ohio, said in a press release that his organization has received 'numerous phone calls and emails from Upper Arlington residents expressing great concern' about the proposal." [ThisWeek Community News, [8/20/14](#)]

AFP Opposed A "0.25 Percent Sales Tax Increase" In Summit County. According to the Akron Beacon Journal, "Summit County leaders say they will make 'an important announcement' Thursday about the proposed 0.25 percent sales tax increase planned for the November ballot. [...] The permanent tax would raise about \$20 million a year, much of it going for improving conditions at the county jail and other safety efforts. But the public has focused on the fact the tax also would build a \$76 million arena in downtown Akron for the University of Akron. [...] Conservative group Americans for Prosperity-Ohio joined the debate. 'The taxpayers of the county have to come before bigger government and basketball arenas,' State Director Eli Miller said in a news release. 'Taxpayer money should stay in the pocket of the taxpayer rather than the county as much as possible. We agree with so many local residents who seem to be saying that raising the sales tax at this time just does not add up.' The county has estimated the increase would cost each taxpayer less than \$50 a year." [Akron Beacon Journal, [7/30/14](#)]

AFP CAMPAIGNED AGAINST A PROPERTY TAX TO FUND THE COLUMBUS ZOO

AFP Launched A Successful Campaign Against A Proposal For A Permanent Property Tax To Fund The Columbus Zoo And Aquarium In Ohio. According to the Columbus Dispatch, “The Columbus Zoo and Aquarium will return to the ballot with a new proposal after voters overwhelmingly said no to a permanent levy following a raucous and sometimes nasty campaign. The zoo’s request for a permanent, 1.25-mill property tax was rejected by 70 percent of Franklin County voters, according to unofficial returns with 99 percent of the vote reported. The failure is the first for the zoo and its most expensive campaign, at an estimated \$700,000. [...] Past zoo levies have sailed to victory, but this one attracted a local opposition group and then a national anti-tax organization — Americans for Prosperity, supported by conservative billionaire brothers Charles and David Koch.” [Columbus Dispatch, [5/7/14](#)]

ABC News: “The Koch Brothers Just Threw A Monkey Wrench Into A May Ballot Proposal To Increase Funding For The Columbus Zoo In Ohio.” According to ABC News, “Hold your horses, Jack Hanna: the Koch brothers just threw a monkey wrench into a May ballot proposal to increase funding for the Columbus Zoo in Ohio. Less than two weeks from a vote on the proposal, Americans for Prosperity, an interest group financed in part by the conservative Koch brothers, is reaching into the debate over a local tax levy in Franklin County, Ohio.” [ABC News, [4/24/14](#)]

Co-Chair Of The Movement To Increase Zoo Funding John Kulewicz: “Everyone I Know Is Wondering Why” The Kochs “Are Getting Involved....What Does This Have To Do With Anything?” According to ABC News, “It’s the most curious thing I’ve ever seen in Franklin County politics,” John Kulewicz, co-chair of the movement to pass the tax hike, told ABC News. ‘Everyone I know is wondering why [the Koch brothers] are getting involved. What does this have to do with anything?’ [...] Kulewicz said that he doesn’t understand why the conservative group is getting involved with an issue that pertains to the zoo’s well-being. ‘All we know is it’s an outside special interest group from northern Virginia with deep pockets,’ Kulewicz said. ‘I’m not aware that they have any interest in the zoo at all.’” [ABC News, [4/24/14](#)]

AFP-Ohio State Director Eli Miller: “A Lot Of Our Activists In Franklin County Reached Out To Us,” About The Tax Increase To Fund The Zoo. “Hold your horses, Jack Hanna: the Koch brothers just threw a monkey wrench into a May ballot proposal to increase funding for the Columbus Zoo in Ohio. [...] Eli Miller, the Ohio state director of Americans for Prosperity, said his organization works at the local, state and federal level, and this involvement wasn’t uncommon for the interest group. ‘A lot of our activists in Franklin County reached out to us on the issue that their voices were not being heard on this tax increase,’ said Miller. ‘If you’re going to raise taxes at any level, you’re going to hear from us.’” [ABC News, [4/24/14](#)]

Miller: We Will Spend “As Much As It Takes To Educate Franklin County Constituents” On The Zoo Funding Measure. According to ABC News, “Americans for Prosperity mailed out ads urging voters to ‘stop the money grab,’ featuring a gorilla hand holding a \$100 bill. Miller said the group has also gone door-to-door with its campaign. [...] Miller wouldn’t comment on how much the group has spent so far on the initiative, but said that they ‘are going to spend as much as it takes to educate Franklin County constituents. ‘We decided to help educate the public on this issue so Franklin County residents can decide,’ Miller said. ‘As with any tax increase, this is really going to hurt those who can’t afford it.’” [ABC News, [4/24/14](#)]

- **Miller: “There Is Nothing We Won’t Do.”** According to WBNS-10TV, “The double-sided [AFP] flier mentions four times that property taxes will rise 105 percent if Issue 6 passes. ‘Issue 6 increases property taxes for Franklin County residents by 105%,’ the flyer reads, ‘hurting the disabled and elderly who own their homes but live on fixed incomes.’ ‘This is the most astounding exaggeration I’ve seen in politics,’ said John Kulewicz, co-chairman of the Zoo Levy campaign. [...] A spokesman for Americans For Prosperity in Ohio told 10TV that they are sticking with their numbers and there could be more literature mailed to voters this week. ‘We believe the math is accurate,’ said Eli Miller, Ohio director of Americans for Prosperity. ‘We plan to educate voters in Franklin County about the zoo and Issue 6. There is nothing we won’t do.’” [10TV.com, [4/28/14](#)]

Miller: AFP Sent Out Mailings, Ran Radio Ads, Made Robo Calls And “Knocked On Thousands Of Doors.” According to the Columbus Dispatch, “Eli Miller, Ohio director of Americans for Prosperity, said his staff and volunteers knocked on thousands of doors and called thousands of residents. They also sent out mailings, ran radio ads, polled voters and

made robo calls. ‘Franklin County voters spoke tonight, and they didn’t want a permanent tax increase,’ Miller said.” [Columbus Dispatch, [5/7/14](#)]

Stephen Colbert Mocked The Koch Brothers’ Involvement In Zoo Funding Fight: “There Is No Children’s Field Trip Too Small For These Two To Ruin.” According to the Columbus Dispatch, “Stephen Colbert poked a little fun this week at the fight over the Columbus Zoo and Aquarium levy. On his Comedy Central show, The Colbert Report, he joked about a victory being won over the greedy animals at the zoo. The levy might have been defeated, he said, because of the campaigning of Americans for Prosperity, founded with the support of billionaires Charles and David Koch. [...] Colbert also jabbed at the Koch brothers, who said in media reports, ‘There is nothing we won’t do.’ ‘There is no children’s field trip too small for these two to ruin,’ Colbert said.” [Columbus Dispatch, [5/15/14](#)]

The Ballot Measure To Increase Zoo Funding Was Voted Down. According to the Columbus Dispatch, “The Columbus Zoo and Aquarium will return to the ballot with a new proposal after voters overwhelmingly said no to a permanent levy following a raucous and sometimes nasty campaign. The zoo’s request for a permanent, 1.25-mill property tax was rejected by 70 percent of Franklin County voters, according to unofficial returns with 99 percent of the vote reported. ‘The voters spoke very clearly,’ Phil Pikelný, chairman of the zoo board, said last night. ‘The vision we were offering is not the one the voters want at this time. People do love this zoo. What they didn’t love is the plan we thought they would want.’ He said the board will study what voters objected to and then decide what kind of levy to place on a future ballot.” [Columbus Dispatch, [5/7/14](#)]

- **Previous Levies Were Successful But “This One Attracted A Local Opposition Group And Then A National Anti-Tax Organization.”** According to the Columbus Dispatch, “Past zoo levies have sailed to victory, but this one attracted a local opposition group and then a national anti-tax organization — Americans for Prosperity, supported by conservative billionaire brothers Charles and David Koch. Eli Miller, Ohio director of Americans for Prosperity, said his staff and volunteers knocked on thousands of doors and called thousands of residents. They also sent out mailings, ran radio ads, polled voters and made robo calls. ‘Franklin County voters spoke tonight, and they didn’t want a permanent tax increase,’ Miller said.” [Columbus Dispatch, [5/7/14](#)]

AFP-Ohio Claimed They Had Been Engaged On The Issue Of Property Tax Reform “For Over A Year.” According to a web post from AFP-Ohio, “Americans for Prosperity Ohio is continuing their efforts to educate property tax payers in Columbus with a new website and mail piece. The efforts call for city Council President Andrew Ginther, who has voted more than 40 times to give property tax breaks to the select few, to provide property tax relief for all city residents. AFP Ohio, the state’s foremost group of grassroots activists aimed at promoting economic liberty, has been engaged on this issue for over a year.” [AmericansForProsperity.org/Ohio, [4/1/15](#)]

The Columbus Zoo Board Of Trustees Voted To Put A “10-Year, 0.75-Mill” Property Tax Measure On The Ballot In November 2015. According to the Columbus Dispatch, “The Columbus Zoo and Aquarium board voted unanimously Wednesday to ask Franklin County voters to renew a 10-year, 0.75-mill property tax in November. [...] The proposed levy now goes to the Franklin County commissioners, who will determine whether it will go on the Nov. 3 ballot. The tax would continue to cost homeowners \$21 per \$100,000 of property value annually and would bring in about \$18.9 million a year for the zoo. The November ballot is the last chance for the zoo to extend its current levy, which expires on Dec. 31.” [Columbus Dispatch, [6/17/15](#)]

- **“The November Ballot Is The Last Chance For The Zoo To Extend Its Current Levy.”** According to the Columbus Dispatch, “The November ballot is the last chance for the zoo to extend its current levy, which expires on Dec. 31. ‘Maintaining that revenue is critical,’ said board member Keith Shumate, head of the levy committee.” [Columbus Dispatch, [6/17/15](#)]

AFP-OHIO OPPOSED TAX INCREASES TO SUPPORT THE FIRE AND POLICE DEPARTMENTS IN GENOA TOWNSHIP

AFP-Ohio Issued A “Statement Of Support” For A Group That Was Formed In Genoa Township To Oppose A Fire Levy And A Police Levy, Which Township Residents Were Expected To Decide In May. According to the Westerville News and Public Opinion, “An opposition group has formed in Genoa Township to oppose a fire levy and a police levy township residents will decide in the May 5 election. While the group may be made up of only about 25 residents, it has earned the backing of a national organization. Americans for Prosperity, a national anti-tax advocacy group based in Virginia and

founded by Koch Industries owners David and Charles Koch in 2004, issued a statement of support for the group Genoa Township Taxpayers for Police and Fire Accountability.” [Westerville News and Public Opinion, [4/23/15](#)]

“While The Group,” Genoa Township Taxpayers For Police And Fire Accountability, “May Be Made Up Of Only About 25 Residents, It Has Earned The Backing Of A National Organization,” Americans For Prosperity.

According to the Westerville News and Public Opinion, “An opposition group has formed in Genoa Township to oppose a fire levy and a police levy township residents will decide in the May 5 election. While the group may be made up of only about 25 residents, it has earned the backing of a national organization. Americans for Prosperity, a national anti-tax advocacy group based in Virginia and founded by Koch Industries owners David and Charles Koch in 2004, issued a statement of support for the group Genoa Township Taxpayers for Police and Fire Accountability.” [Westerville News and Public Opinion, [4/23/15](#)]

AFP-Ohio Deputy State Director Baylor Myers Stated That AFP’s Involvement With Genoa Township’s Fire And Police Levies “Came After Genoa Residents Reached Out.” According to the Westerville News and Public Opinion, “[AFP-Ohio Deputy State Director Baylor] Myers declined to specify whether Americans for Prosperity has focused its efforts on moving into other local township or school district issues, but said their involvement came after Genoa residents reached out. ‘When we’re approached by hardworking citizens of any municipality with a real concern, we take that very seriously and will conduct an internal review and decide whether or not the issue has merit and if we can provide assistance to the citizens on the ground who are often at a disadvantage in terms of resources,’ he said.” [Westerville News and Public Opinion, [4/23/15](#)]

Myers “Would Not Say How Much Money The Group Plans To Invest In Opposing The Genoa Levies, But Said It Has Purchased A Billboard Advertisement At State Route 161 And Sunbury Road.” According to the Westerville News and Public Opinion, “[AFP-Ohio Deputy State Director Baylor] Myers would not say how much money the group plans to invest in opposing the Genoa levies, but said it has purchased a billboard advertisement at state Route 161 and Sunbury Road.” [Westerville News and Public Opinion, [4/23/15](#)]

AFP Was Against The Levies, Which Would “Fully Fund” Genoa’s Police And Fire Departments As Well As “Add \$28 In Property Taxes Per \$100,000 Of Property Value Annually.” According to the Westerville News and Public Opinion, “The group [AFP] is against the proposed renewal-plus-increase for both levies that fully fund the [Genoa] township’s police and fire departments. The township is asking for 0.8-mill increases in the levies that would add \$28 in property taxes per \$100,000 of property value annually, according to township officials. The police levy would increase to 4.6 mills -- with a proposed renewal of the existing 3.8-mill levy and a 0.8-mill increase -- to raise a projected \$4.2 million per year. The fire department is asking for the same size increase: a renewal of its 4.7-mill levy with an increase of 0.8 mills, for a total 5.5-mill levy.” [Westerville News and Public Opinion, [4/23/15](#)]

Despite The Opposition From AFP, Genoa Township Voters Approved The Levies To Fund The Police And Fire Departments. According to the Westerville News and Public Opinion, “Genoa Township voters approved a pair of five-year levies in the primary election Tuesday, May 5 that will boost funding for the township’s police and fire departments. As of 10:37 p.m. Tuesday with near complete results from the Delaware County Board of Elections, both the the *[sic]* fire levy and the police levy were passing with 62 percent of voters in favor and 38 percent against. [...] An opposition group called Genoa Township Taxpayers for Police and Fire Accountability formed and earned the backing of the national anti-tax advocacy group, Americans for Prosperity.” [Westerville News and Public Opinion, [5/5/15](#)]

AFP-OHIO OPPOSED A TAX LEVY TO FUND A LOCAL DISTRICT’S PUBLIC SCHOOLS

AFP-Ohio Supported The Efforts Of A North Lima Group Called ACT Now For South Range Schools, Which Sought A Performance Audit Of Local Schools And A “Detailed Review Of A Five-Year Plan For The District.”

According to The Vindicator, “North Lima A national conservative advocacy and anti-tax group funded by billionaires Charles and David Koch is supporting a group in the South Range school district that is calling for greater accountability in school operations. Americans for Prosperity also is weighing in on the operating levy on the May 5 ballot for district voters. Jim Shaw, Northeast Ohio regional director for AFP, told a gathering of about 15 people of the ACT Now for South Range Schools group last week at the former South Range High School that his group would help ACT’s effort. ACT Now stands for Accountability, Clarity and Transparency for the district. Specifically, ACT is seeking a performance audit of the schools by the state, a comprehensive and detailed review of a five-year plan for the district, and district participation in the state treasurer’s Open Checkbook program online.” [Vindicator, [4/20/15](#)]

AFP Northeast Ohio Regional Director Jim Shaw “Told A Gathering Of About 15 People Of The ACT Now For South Range Schools Group...That His Group Would Help ACT’s Effort.” According to The Vindicator, “Jim Shaw, Northeast Ohio regional director for AFP, told a gathering of about 15 people of the ACT Now for South Range Schools group last week at the former South Range High School that his group would help ACT’s effort. ACT Now stands for Accountability, Clarity and Transparency for the district.” [Vindicator, [4/20/15](#)]

- **Shaw: “This Is The First Time We’ve Done A School Issue” In Ohio.** According to The Vindicator, “This is the first time we’ve done a school issue [in Ohio]. We’ve weighed in on other issues’ such as the Summit County sales tax, Shaw said.” [Vindicator, [4/20/15](#)]

AFP Said It Was “Also Is Weighing In On The Operating Levy On The May 5 Ballot For District Voters.” According to The Vindicator, “A national conservative advocacy and anti-tax group funded by billionaires Charles and David Koch is supporting a group in the South Range school district that is calling for greater accountability in school operations. Americans for Prosperity also is weighing in on the operating levy on the May 5 ballot for district voters.” [Vindicator, [4/20/15](#)]

AFP Said It Was Not Officially Endorsing Nor Opposing The Levy But “The Amount Of The Tax” Was Their “Biggest Concern.” According to The Vindicator, “Like ACT, Americans for Prosperity is neither officially endorsing nor opposing the levy. In general, AFP promotes limited government, lower taxes and more personal freedoms. ‘This is the first time we’ve done a school issue [in Ohio]. We’ve weighed in on other issues’ such as the Summit County sales tax, Shaw said. [...] In South Range, AFP will pay for one to two informational mailings to residents of Beaver and Green townships as well as doing one to two phone calls to area residents in the lead up to the primary. Voters have in front of them a 4.9-mill operating levy for three years that would generate \$931,838 annually. ‘The amount of the tax is our biggest concern,’ Shaw explained. [Vindicator, [4/20/15](#)]

- **The Proposed Tax Levy Would Generate \$931,838 In Funds Annually For South Range District Schools.** According to The Vindicator, “South Range School District is moving forward with a levy for the May 5 ballot, but with different parameters than the levy that failed in November. The board of education Monday approved a resolution of necessity for a levy to generate revenue for the schools, the first step to getting the tax issue before voters for the spring primary election. The new tax issue is a three-year, 4.9-mill levy that would generate \$931,838 annually. That is different from the 10-year, 3.9-mill operating levy that failed in November and which would have generated \$707,500 annually. The district’s 2013 failed levy was for 4.8 mills.” [Vindicator, [1/6/15](#)]

Shaw: “We’re Working To Help The Group There Educate The People That Live In The School District And Make Sure That They Are All Aware’ Of The Emergency Operating Levy On The Ballot.” According to The Vindicator, “‘We’re behind a lot of the points they made,’ [AFP Northeast Ohio Regional Director Jim] Shaw said. ‘We’re working to help the group there educate the people that live in the school district and make sure that they are all aware’ of the emergency operating levy on the ballot, Shaw added.” [Vindicator, [4/20/15](#)]

AFP Was Expected To Pay “For One To Two Informational Mailings To Residents Of Beaver And Green Townships” As Well As Make “One To Two Phone Calls To Area Residents In The Lead Up To The Primary.” According to The Vindicator, “In South Range, AFP will pay for one to two informational mailings to residents of Beaver and Green townships as well as doing one to two phone calls to area residents in the lead up to the primary.” [Vindicator, [4/20/15](#)]

AFP Was Expected To Pay For Mailings And Phone Calls On The Proposed Levy To Residents Of Beaver And Green Townships “In The Lead Up To The Primary.” According to The Vindicator, “In South Range, AFP will pay for one to two informational mailings to residents of Beaver and Green townships as well as doing one to two phone calls to area residents in the lead up to the primary. Voters have in front of them a 4.9-mill operating levy for three years that would generate \$931,838 annually. ‘The amount of the tax is our biggest concern,’ Shaw explained.” [Vindicator, [4/20/15](#)]

AFP-Ohio And ACT Now For South Range Schools’ Efforts Defeated The South Range Operating Levy. According to The Vindicator, “Members of ACT Now for South Range schools gathered at The Smokin’ Gun Saloon on Market Street Tuesday night as election results came in. ‘We were just worried about turnout,’ said Richard Ferenchak, an outspoken resident at South Range school meetings. He and others discussed ACT Now, which stands for Accountability, Clarity and Transparency. They gathered around a table as more residents arrived and wondered what the vote was going to be. After a

phone bank the group did through Americans For Prosperity, the group believed a South Range operating levy would fall for the third consecutive ballot before residents in Green and Beaver townships. And the levy did go down. Unofficial results from the Mahoning County Board of Elections showed 1,254 voters opposed the levy to 816 who supported it.” [Vindicator, [5/5/15](#)]

- **The Levy Was Rejected By Voters For The Third Time.** According to The Vindicator, “South Range voters have rejected the third consecutive operating levy put before them. The measure failed with 61 percent of the votes against it, according to unofficial results from the Mahoning County Board of Elections. The three-year, 4.9-mills operating levy would have generated \$931,838 annually for three years. It would have cost the owner of a \$100,000 home \$171.50 a year.” [Vindicator, [5/5/15](#)]

AFP-Ohio Deputy State Director Baylor Myers: “We Are Pleased To See Voters Reject This Levy...Now It Is Up To The South Range School Board To Increase Transparency And Fiscal Responsibility.” According to The Vindicator, “‘We are pleased to see voters reject this levy,’ said Baylor Myers, deputy state director for AFP in Ohio. ‘Raising taxes should always be a last resort. Now it is up to the South Range School Board to increase transparency and fiscal responsibility.’” [Vindicator, [5/7/15](#)]

AFP WAS CRITICIZED HEAVILY BY THE LOCAL NEWSPAPER AND COLUMNISTS FOR ITS INTERFERENCE IN LOCAL ISSUES

Columbus Dispatch Editorial Headline: “Koch Brothers Don’t Belong Here.” [Editorial – Columbus Dispatch, [4/30/14](#)]

Columbus Dispatch Editorial: “Franklin County Voters Do Not Need The Help Of An Out-Of-State Organization” To Make A Decision On The Local Zoo. According to a Columbus Dispatch editorial, “The proposed levy for Columbus Zoo and Aquarium is a local issue about a local treasure that will be decided by local voters. To make their decision, Franklin County voters do not need the help of an out-of-state organization that knows nothing about local values and has no stake in the local economy and local quality of life. Yet, this outside group, Americans for Prosperity, supported by billionaire brothers David and Charles Koch, is pouring in money to oppose the permanent 1.25-mill property-tax levy for the zoo.” [Editorial – Columbus Dispatch, [4/30/14](#)]

Columbus Dispatch Editorial: “Many Franklin County Voters Already Have Called Foul On This Outside Interference” From The Koch Brothers. According to a Columbus Dispatch editorial, “Many Franklin County voters already have called foul on this outside interference. And central Ohio leaders know this AFP move is fishy. On Monday, Columbus Mayor Michael B. Coleman, City Council President Andrew J. Ginther, Franklin County Board of Commissioners President Marilyn Brown, Columbus Partnership President and CEO Alex Fischer and Ohio AFSCME Council 8 President John Lyall blasted the Koch brothers’ interference.” [Editorial – Columbus Dispatch, [4/30/14](#)]

- **Columbus Dispatch Editorial: Local Ohio Leaders Believe That AFP’s Involvement Is “Fishy.”** According to a Columbus Dispatch editorial, “Many Franklin County voters already have called foul on this outside interference. And central Ohio leaders know this AFP move is fishy. On Monday, Columbus Mayor Michael B. Coleman, City Council President Andrew J. Ginther, Franklin County Board of Commissioners President Marilyn Brown, Columbus Partnership President and CEO Alex Fischer and Ohio AFSCME Council 8 President John Lyall blasted the Koch brothers’ interference.” [Editorial – Columbus Dispatch, [4/30/14](#)]

Columbus Dispatch Editorial: Local Officials Have Said “Carpetbaggers Who Don’t Live Here And Don’t Care About Our Community” Should Not Be Making Local Decisions. According to a Columbus Dispatch editorial, “Franklin County voters should decide the zoo issue, local officials said, not ‘carpetbaggers who don’t live here and don’t care about our community.’” [Editorial – Columbus Dispatch, [4/30/14](#)]

Columbus Dispatch Editorial: AFP’s Involvement Has Led Voters To Support The Zoo Levy. According to a Columbus Dispatch editorial, “Americans for Prosperity’s participation is having a galvanizing, though unintentional, effect. Many Franklin County residents have said the AFP involvement has helped them decide to support the levy. Central Ohioans understand the true bottom line. About 2 million people a year visit our world-class zoo. A relatively small investment by taxpayers leverages a \$238 million annual boost to the local economy.” [Editorial – Columbus Dispatch, [4/30/14](#)]

Columbus Dispatch Editorial: “There’s Something Unfair About A National Heavy-Hitter Targeting A Local Ballot Issue.” According to a Columbus Dispatch editorial, “National political-advocacy groups, including AFP and liberal counterparts such as Emily’s List, long have played a role in supporting local candidates. That’s fine, given the existence of equally matched donor groups of both stripes. But there’s something unfair about a national heavy-hitter targeting a local ballot issue.” [Editorial – Columbus Dispatch, [4/30/14](#)]

Columbus Dispatch Editorial: AFP Does Not Have Local Residents’ Interests At Heart. According to a Columbus Dispatch editorial, “John Kulewicz, co-chairman of the zoo levy campaign, called AFP’s intervention a ‘stunt.’ ‘I’ve never heard that they’ve had any interest before in the Columbus Zoo or the people of Franklin County,’ he told The Dispatch. ‘They are playing us.’ Franklin County voters should remember that this group does not have their interests at heart.” [Editorial – Columbus Dispatch, [4/30/14](#)]

Columbus Dispatch Letter To The Editor: “We Do Not Need Outsiders Like The Koch Brothers” Involved In Local Issues. According to a Letter to the Editor by Lois Neff in the Columbus Dispatch, “I am disappointed and disgusted with Columbus residents for voting down Issue 6, the levy for the Columbus Zoo and Aquarium. Many who voted ‘no’ don’t have a problem paying almost \$5 daily for a pack of cigarettes, compared with \$1.68 more monthly toward the zoo. And there were lies, such as the claim that the zoo plan was responsible for tearing down Veterans Memorial and would double property taxes (only the zoo’s tax would have been doubled). How can people be naive enough to believe lies like this? Columbus needs its topnotch zoo and surrounding attractions; we do not need outsiders like the Koch brothers telling us how to finance and operate it.” [Lois Neff – Columbus Dispatch, 5/9/14]

Lima News Columnist Joe Blundo: Getting Involved In Local Issues Is A “Hobby” For The Koch Brothers.

According to an opinion by columnist Joe Blundo in the Lima News, “The Koch brothers, it seems, don’t want us to build a zoo Downtown. The billionaire brothers - Charles and David - are big supporters of Americans for Prosperity, a conservative political-action group that has joined efforts to defeat the Columbus Zoo and Aquarium tax levy on the May 6 ballot. Part of the tax revenue would pay for a satellite zoo near COSI Columbus. Why are two plutocrats from Kansas interested in an election 800 miles away? Such involvement, I guess, is sort of a hobby. Americans for Prosperity also weighed in on a proposed food-tax measure in a Nebraska town, an income-tax issue in Gahanna and - for all I know - a homecoming-queen election in Circleville.” [Joe Blundo – Lima News, 5/2/14]

Koch Groups Opposed Obamacare And Expansion Of Medicaid In Ohio

AFP-OHIO OPPOSED OBAMACARE AND MEDICAID EXPANSION

AFP-Ohio Launched An “Obamacare Campus Crisis Tour” To “To Meet With Young People And Highlight The Negative Effects” Of Obamacare

AFP-Ohio Launched An “Obamacare Campus Crisis Tour” To “To Meet With Young People And Highlight The Negative Effects” Of Obamacare. According to an AFP-Ohio press release, “Americans for Prosperity Ohio is kicking off their ObamaCare Campus Crisis effort this week in Ohio. The effort includes stops at several college campuses across the state to meet with young people and highlight the negative effects ObamaCare is having on them. [...] ‘ObamaCare is destroying opportunities for young people,’ continued Miller. ‘We have heard from college students all over Ohio who are hurting and afraid they will not be able to find employment as a direct result of ObamaCare. We plan to take their stories all over the state so that everyone understands the crisis ObamaCare is wreaking on our college campuses.’” [AFP-Ohio Press Release, [3/10/14](#)]

- **An “Obamacare Campus Crisis Tour” Event At The University Of Toledo Attracted “About 25 Students And Local Public Officials.”** According to the Toledo Blade, “An event dubbed the Obamacare Campus Crisis Tour made a stop Wednesday at the University of Toledo. [...] The director of the Ohio Chapter of Americans for Prosperity [sic], Eli Miller, spoke to about 25 students and local public officials Wednesday evening at the University of Toledo’s Nitschke Technology Complex. Mr. Miller said the law has been particularly devastating for young people, who will be hurt by lost opportunities for jobs that have been eliminated because of it. He has visited about five college campuses across Ohio, videotaping testimonials from students who say they have been harmed in a variety of ways by the law known as Obamacare.” [Toledo Blade, [4/3/14](#)]

AFP-Ohio State Director Baylor Myers: “Policies Like The Affordable Care Act's Definition Of Full-Time Work At 30 Hours Per Week Are Forcing Many Employers To Cut Hours Lest They Be Buried In Unaffordable Costs.”

According to an opinion by AFP-Ohio State Director Baylor Myers on Cleveland.com, “The most unfortunate part of this economic malaise is that it's largely self-imposed. Policies like the Affordable Care Act's definition of full-time work at 30 hours per week are forcing many employers to cut hours lest they be buried in unaffordable costs.” [Baylor Myers – Cleveland.com, [3/20/15](#)]

Myers On Obamacare’s Business SHOP Access: Ohioans “Deserve Better Than To Serve As Guinea Pigs In This Early Access Experiment.” According to a press release from AFP-Ohio, “Americans for Prosperity – Ohio issued the following statement in response to the beginning of the early SHOP access being made available to Ohio businesses under ObamaCare. ‘I am not sure calling this ‘early access’ is an appropriate description given the number of times the launch of these programs have been delayed,’ said Eli Miller, Americans for Prosperity Ohio State Director. [...] Our small business owners are the backbone of this economy. They need certainty and clarity so they can plan ahead and grow their businesses and employ more Ohioans. Instead, all they have gotten from this Administration is uncertainty and delays. They deserve better than to serve as guinea pigs in this early access experiment.” [AFP-Ohio Press Release, [10/28/14](#)]

Myers On Obamacare’s Business SHOP Access: “I Am Not Sure Calling This ‘Early Access’ Is An Appropriate Description Given The Number Of Times The Launch Of These Programs Have Been Delayed.” According to a press release from AFP-Ohio, “Americans for Prosperity – Ohio issued the following statement in response to the beginning of the early SHOP access being made available to Ohio businesses under ObamaCare. ‘I am not sure calling this ‘early access’ is an appropriate description given the number of times the launch of these programs have been delayed,’ said Eli Miller, Americans for Prosperity Ohio State Director. ‘While this may allow businesses who chose to participate in this project the ability to prepare; it will still not allow them to purchase health care insurance for their employees – that opportunity is still several weeks away. In the meantime, healthcare insurance premiums are higher for many Ohioans and those who qualify for government subsidies are finding such high deductibles that they are reluctant to seek care. Is it any surprise that ObamaCare remains so highly unpopular?’” [AFP-Ohio Press Release, [10/28/14](#)]

Myers: “As Health Care Costs Rise Under Obamacare, The Program Will Become Even More Unpopular Than It Already Is.” According to a press release from AFP-Ohio, “Americans for Prosperity (AFP) Ohio is commenting on the release of lowered enrollment projections for ObamaCare in 2015. The projections, which dropped from 13 million predicted enrollees to between 9 and 9.9 million projected enrollees, were released before the second round of open enrollment in the program begins tomorrow. ‘Unfortunately these lower projected ObamaCare enrollment numbers are par for the course,’ said Eli Miller, State Director of Americans for Prosperity Ohio. ‘However what may be unexpected is that many who opt to keep their current plans next year will see their health care rates rise as a result. As health care costs rise under ObamaCare, the program will become even more unpopular than it already is. Americans and Ohioans have come to expect disappointment and delays from this failed health care take-over. But whether they will also stomach higher costs remains to be seen.’” [AFP-Ohio Press Release, [11/14/14](#)]

Protestors At An Anti-ACA Rally Organized By AFP Yelled “Communist” And “No More Handouts” At A Man Suffering From Parkinson’s

A Video Showed “Angry Protestors Berating” Robert Letcher, A Former Nuclear Engineer With A Doctorate From Cornell, Who Suffers From Parkinson’s Disease, At An Ohio Event Opposing Healthcare Reform. According to the Columbus Dispatch, “A demonstrator at a Columbus health-care rally who was chided for looking for a handout ‘on the wrong end of town’ actually is a former nuclear engineer with a doctorate from Cornell University. Robert A. Letcher, 60, had no way of knowing that attending the rally would make him a flashpoint in the raging national health-care debate. But the treatment of Letcher, who suffers from Parkinson's disease, by two opponents of health-care legislation instantly became the topic of Internet chatter and bloggers and was given a prime spot on cable-news programs in the past two days. A Dispatch video, widely circulated on the Internet, depicted the angry protestors berating Letcher as he sat on the ground holding a sign explaining his condition. [...] ‘I’ve seen the video and found the behavior completely inappropriate. Americans for Prosperity certainly does not encourage or condone harassing behavior,’ said Rebecca Heimlich, state director of the conservative group that opposes the legislation and helped organize the rally.” [Columbus Dispatch, [3/19/10](#)]

- **A Man Carrying A Sign That Read “I Am AFP” Threw Money At A Man Suffering From Parkinson’s Disease; Protestors Yelled “Communist” And “No More Handouts” At Him.** According to Hardball with Chris Matthews, “[MATTHEWS:] And remember this nasty picture we showed you yesterday from a Columbus, Ohio, health care rally, where we saw protesters mocking a man with Parkinson’s disease? (BEGIN VIDEO CLIP) UNIDENTIFIED MALE:

I'll pay for this guy! Here you go. Stir (ph) the pot. I'll pay for you. UNIDENTIFIED MALE: I'll just... UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Yes, here's another one. There you go! UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Do you love a communist? UNIDENTIFIED MALE: No more handouts! (END VIDEO CLIP) MATTHEWS: Well, that protester in the white shirt there, who threw money at the man suffering from Parkinson's disease, was carrying a sign that reads "I Am AFP," which stands for Americans For Prosperity. And the president of Americans for Prosperity will be here tonight to explain his behavior, or that man's behavior." [Hardball with Chris Matthews - MSNBC, 3/18/2010]

- **AFP Helped To Organize The Event.** According to the Columbus Dispatch, "I've seen the video and found the behavior completely inappropriate. Americans for Prosperity certainly does not encourage or condone harassing behavior," said Rebecca Heimlich, state director of the conservative group that opposes the legislation and helped organize the rally. "Our goal was to send a message to Rep. Kilroy that we oppose this health-care takeover bill." [Columbus Dispatch, [3/19/10](#)]

AFP-Ohio Campaigned Against Medicaid Expansion As Gov. John Kasich Campaigned For It

As Gov. John Kasich Was "Pushing Against Fellow Republicans "By Supporting Medicaid Expansion, AFP-Ohio Was "Preparing To Push Back Against Expanding The Federal-State Health Insurance Of Last Resort." According to The Blade, "Pushing against fellow Republicans to expand Medicaid to some 275,000 more Ohioans, Gov. John Kasich on Tuesday urged roughly 300 people rallying with him to knock on lawmakers' doors and refuse to take 'no' for an answer. At the same time, the conservative organization Americans for Prosperity of Ohio is preparing to push back against expanding the federal-state health insurance of last resort." [The Blade, [7/10/13](#)]

AFP-Ohio Announced It Would Host A Forum "With A Pair Of Anti-Expansion Lawmakers In An Attempt To Blunt Any Momentum The Expansion Movement Might Generate." According to The Blade, "The governor has angered some conservatives within his own party by proposing to partner with the federal government under President Obama's health-care law, a law most of them disdain. Americans for Prosperity of Ohio will host a forum today with a pair of anti-expansion lawmakers in an attempt to blunt any momentum the expansion movement might generate." [The Blade, [7/10/13](#)]

AFP-Ohio Director Eli Miller: "Medicaid Expansion Is An Arm Of Obamacare, And It Will Cost Ohioans Millions Of Dollars...We Are Going To Educate The Citizens Of Ohio And Let Them Know Medicaid Expansion Is Not A Good Idea." According to The Blade, "Americans for Prosperity of Ohio will host a forum today with a pair of anti-expansion lawmakers in an attempt to blunt any momentum the expansion movement might generate. 'Medicaid expansion is an arm of Obamacare, and it will cost Ohioans millions of dollars,' said Eli Miller, the organization's director. 'We are going to educate the citizens of Ohio and let them know Medicaid expansion is not a good idea.'" [The Blade, [7/10/13](#)]

AFP Headline: Stop Medicaid Expansion In Ohio! [AmericansforProsperity.org/Ohio, [8/16/13](#)]

AFP-Ohio: "Expanding Medicaid...Is NOT In The Best Interest Of The Fiscal Health Of Our State Or The Physical Health Of The People Who Would Be Placed Into The Program." According to a post on AFP-Ohio's website, "Representative Barbara Sears is one of the state's most vocal proponents of Medicaid expansion which is made possible under ObamaCare. The Congressional Budget Office estimates the federal government will spend \$700 billion for states agreeing to expand their Medicaid programs under ObamaCare. Expanding Medicaid, as made voluntary under ObamaCare, is NOT in the best interest of the fiscal health of our state or the physical health of the people who would be placed into the program. Whether it's federal or state tax dollars funding Medicaid expansion, it is YOUR tax dollars! It's your hard-earned money!" [AmericansforProsperity.org/Ohio, [10/2/13](#)]

AFP-Ohio Listed Medicaid Expansion As One Of The "Issues We Will Be Watching" In The Fall 2013 Legislative Session. According to an Americans for Prosperity-Ohio web post, "Please see below information on a couple of the issues we will be watching when the Legislature returns. First, ObamaCare Medicaid expansion – ObamaCare is expected to decrease the number of doctors available to patients and increase the cost of obtaining care. Unfortunately, State Representative Barbara Sears wants to bring ObamaCare to Ohio by expanding Medicaid and place nearly 275,000 of our most vulnerable citizens into the already broken, bloated and bureaucratic Medicaid system." [AmericansForProsperity.org/Ohio, [8/19/13](#)]

"Americans For Prosperity Leaders Called The Move" By Gov. John Kasich To Pass Medicaid Expansion Through An "Obscure" State Board, "Outrageous." According to the Los Angeles Times, "But facing the threat of a primary challenge over the issue, many Republican lawmakers staved silent. Sears' legislation languished in committee, never brought to

the floor for a vote. Ultimately, Kasich had to make an end run around lawmakers by shuffling the decision to an obscure state board that voted for it. That last-minute maneuvering was interpreted by many in Ohio political circles as intended to shield nervous Republican lawmakers from taking a vote that could make them targets. Americans for Prosperity leaders called the move outrageous. ‘Medicaid expansion will create a massive financial burden in our state,’ said Eli Miller, the group's Ohio director. ‘The lure of free federal dollars should be seen for the trap that it is.’” [Los Angeles Times, [11/6/13](#)]

AFP-Ohio Director Eli Miller: “Medicaid Expansion Will Create A Massive Financial Burden In Our State...The Lure Of Free Federal Dollars Should Be Seen For The Trap That It Is.” According to the Los Angeles Times, “But facing the threat of a primary challenge over the issue, many Republican lawmakers stayed silent. Sears' legislation languished in committee, never brought to the floor for a vote. Ultimately, Kasich had to make an end run around lawmakers by shuffling the decision to an obscure state board that voted for it. That last-minute maneuvering was interpreted by many in Ohio political circles as intended to shield nervous Republican lawmakers from taking a vote that could make them targets. Americans for Prosperity leaders called the move outrageous. ‘Medicaid expansion will create a massive financial burden in our state,’ said Eli Miller, the group's Ohio director. ‘The lure of free federal dollars should be seen for the trap that it is.’” [Los Angeles Times, [11/6/13](#)]

AFP Ran An Ad Against Gov. Kasich’s Medicaid Expansion To “To Sow Doubts About Obamacare.” According to the Columbus Dispatch, “the conservative Koch brothers-backed Americans for Prosperity kicked off a \$1 million ad campaign in Ohio and Virginia that is designed to sow doubts about Obamacare. That ad does not mention Kasich, but one of the group's stated goals is to stop states from expanding Medicaid programs with funds from the Affordable Care Act. Kasich, up for re-election next year, is pushing for Medicaid expansion in Ohio. [...] That ad, titled ‘Questions,’ features a woman who says she's concerned about how the Affordable Care Act could affect the health care her sick child receives. The Americans for Prosperity-Ohio website links to the ad and also includes a stiff denunciation of Medicaid expansion.” [Columbus Dispatch, 7/10/13]

- **Kaeding: “Health Outcomes For Medicaid Patients” Can Be “Even Worse Than Whose Are Uninsured.”** According to a letter to the editor by AFP state policy manager Nicole Kaeding for the Columbus Dispatch, “Numerous studies show that health outcomes for Medicaid patients are worse than for those with private insurance and, in some cases, even worse than whose are uninsured. Handing an individual a card with Medicaid emblazoned on the front doesn't guarantee quality health care. Instead of subjecting Ohioans to this failed health-insurance program, Kasich and Ohio policymakers should reject this expansion and push Washington for real, patient-centered reforms.” [Nicole Kaeding – Columbus Dispatch, 8/6/12]

AFP Policy State Policy Manager Nicole Kaeding On Medicaid Expansion: “Adding More Than 750,000 Ohioans To A Broken, Costly System Isn't The Right Answer.” According to a letter to the editor by AFP state policy manager Nicole Kaeding for the Columbus Dispatch, “Adding more than 750,000 Ohioans to a broken, costly system isn't the right answer. Medicaid underpays doctors while subjecting them to limitless paperwork and slow reimbursements. As a result, family physicians are seven times more likely to reject a new Medicaid patient than a new privately insured patient. At least 28 percent of doctors do not accept new Medicaid patients.” [Nicole Kaeding – Columbus Dispatch, 8/6/12]

AFP-Ohio Targeted A “Popular Legislator With A Strong Conservative Voting Record” For Her Support For Medicaid Expansion

AFP-Ohio Targeted A “Popular Legislator With A Strong Conservative Voting Record” Because Of “Her Support For The Expansion Of Medicaid To Cover More Of The State's Poor.” According to The Los Angeles Times, “State Rep. Barbara Sears is the kind of Republican the party would want to highlight these days: a woman and former business owner, fluent in health insurance issues, who has managed to repeatedly win reelection in a district where Republicans and Democrats are almost evenly divided. But this year, the popular legislator with a strong conservative voting record has found her photo on door hangers throughout her district, pictured as the conductor of the Obamacare train to disaster. Her image has been plastered next to President Obama's on billboards. She has been targeted in a heavy splurge of negative talk radio ads. It's all part of a campaign against her by Americans for Prosperity, the free-market advocacy group backed by billionaires Charles and David Koch. The reason: Sears has championed a key element of Obamacare. Her support for the expansion of Medicaid to cover more of the state's poor is also backed by Ohio's Republican Gov. John Kasich and nearly three-quarters of Ohioans, according to an AARP poll.” [Los Angeles Times, [11/6/13](#)]

Ohio State Rep. Barbara Sears Was Targeted In “A Heavy Splurge Of Negative Talk Radio Ads” Sponsored By AFP For Her For Support Of Medicaid Expansion. According to the Los Angeles Times, “State Rep. Barbara Sears is the kind of Republican the party would want to highlight these days: a woman and former business owner, fluent in health insurance issues, who has managed to repeatedly win reelection in a district where Republicans and Democrats are almost evenly divided. But this year, the popular legislator with a strong conservative voting record has found her photo on door hangers throughout her district, pictured as the conductor of the Obamacare train to disaster. Her image has been plastered next to President Obama's on billboards. She has been targeted in a heavy splurge of negative talk radio ads. It's all part of a campaign against her by Americans for Prosperity, the free-market advocacy group backed by billionaires Charles and David Koch. The reason: Sears has championed a key element of Obamacare. Her support for the expansion of Medicaid to cover more of the state's poor is also backed by Ohio's Republican Gov. John Kasich and nearly three-quarters of Ohioans, according to an AARP poll.” [Los Angeles Times, [11/6/13](#)]

- **The Campaign Against Rep. Sears “Illustrates How Dominant Wealthy Independent Groups Have Become.”** According to The Los Angeles Times, “The Americans for Prosperity campaign against her pits one of the Republican Party's biggest benefactors against state GOP leaders and illustrates how dominant wealthy independent groups have become at a time when the weakened GOP is trying to contend with ideological fissures and rebuild its operations around the country. The state GOP has made it clear that it will support lawmakers who vote for Medicaid expansion, but it is hardly a match for an organization that spent more than \$190 million in the 2012 election cycle and has promised a ‘years-long’ campaign to repeal the president's Affordable Care Act.” [Los Angeles Times, [11/6/13](#)]

AFP Accused Ohio Rep. Barbara Sears Of Supporting Expansion Because She Received “Contributions From The Industry That Could Benefit From The Implementation Of Obamacare And The Expansion Of Medicaid.”

According to a post on AFP-Ohio's website, “So why would State Representative Barbara Sears support Medicaid Expansion made possible by ObamaCare? Campaign finance forms from the Ohio Secretary of State's office show that during the last election Representative Sears received nearly \$40,000 in contributions from the industry that could benefit from the implementation of ObamaCare and the expansion of Medicaid. We believe this raises serious questions about who Barbara Sears is representing. Is she working for the taxpayers who elected her or the health care and insurance industry fat-cats?!” [AmericansforProsperity.org/Ohio, [10/2/13](#)]

The Ohio GOP Said “It Will Support Lawmakers Who Vote For Medicaid Expansion, But It Is Hardly A Match For An Organization That...Promised A ‘Years-Long’ Campaign To Repeal The President's Affordable Care Act.”

According to the Los Angeles Times, “The Americans for Prosperity campaign against her pits one of the Republican Party's biggest benefactors against state GOP leaders and illustrates how dominant wealthy independent groups have become at a time when the weakened GOP is trying to contend with ideological fissures and rebuild its operations around the country. The state GOP has made it clear that it will support lawmakers who vote for Medicaid expansion, but it is hardly a match for an organization that spent more than \$190 million in the 2012 election cycle and has promised a ‘years-long’ campaign to repeal the president's Affordable Care Act.” [Los Angeles Times, [11/6/13](#)]

Some Tea Party Activists Were “Frustrated” That AFP “Went After Sears And Not The Governor.” According to the Los Angeles Times, “Tea party activists have vowed to work against Kasich's reelection, and though they worked with Americans for Prosperity earlier this year, some were frustrated that the Koch group went after Sears and not the governor. ‘You're out saying we're going to fight against them — except when it really matters,’ said Tom Zawistowski, who heads the Portage County TEA Party and was until recently president of the Ohio Liberty Coalition.” [Los Angeles Times, [11/6/13](#)]

After Gov. Kasich Responded Forcefully To Questions About Why He Expanded Medicaid He Was No Longer Welcome At Koch Gatherings

In 2014 Ohio Gov. John Kasich Was Questioned At A Koch Summit About Expanding Medicaid By Contributor Randy Kendrick. According to Politico, “[John] Kasich's temper has made it harder to endear himself to the GOP's wealthy benefactors. Last year, he traveled to Southern California to appear on a panel at a conference sponsored by the Republican mega-donors Charles and David Koch. At one point, according to accounts provided by two sources present, Randy Kendrick, a major contributor and the wife of Ken Kendrick, the owner of the Arizona Diamondbacks, rose to say she disagreed with Kasich's decision to expand Medicaid coverage, and questioned why he'd expressed the view it was what God wanted.” [Politico, [6/19/15](#)]

Politico: “The Governor's Response Was Fiery” And “Left Many Stunned. Around 20 Audience Members Walked Out Of The Room And” Govs. Nikki Haley And Bobbly Lindal “Told Kasich They Disagreed With Him.” According

to Politico, “The governor’s response was fiery. ‘I don’t know about you, lady,’ he [John Kasich] said as he pointed at [Randy] Kendrick, his voice rising. ‘But when I get to the Pearly Gates, I’m going to have an answer for what I’ve done for the poor.’ The exchange left many stunned. Around 20 audience members walked out of the room, and two governors also on the panel, Nikki Haley of South Carolina and Bobby Jindal of Louisiana, told Kasich they disagreed with him.” [Politico, [6/19/15](#)]

Politico: “The Ohio Governor Has Not Been Invited Back To A Koch Seminar...In The Months Since.” According to Politico, “The Ohio governor has not been invited back to a Koch seminar — opportunities for presidential aspirants to mingle with the party’s rich and powerful — in the months since.” [Politico, [6/19/15](#)]

THE 60 PLUS “HEALTHCARE FREEDOM” BUS TOUR IN 2012 MADE THREE STOPS IN OHIO

The 60 Plus “Healthcare Freedom” Bus Tour In 2012 Made Three Stops In Ohio. According to a 60 Plus Association web post, “The 60 Plus Association, the leading conservative seniors organization with over 7.2 million supporters nationwide, is continuing its inaugural ‘Healthcare Freedom’ bus tour Wednesday and Thursday in Ohio, with stops in Cleveland, Columbus and Cincinnati. The tour commenced with an eleven-stop swing through Florida and Virginia, and concludes Thursday in Cincinnati. [...] The ‘Healthcare Freedom’ Tour will visit with seniors to discuss their reaction to the controversial healthcare reform bill passed in 2010. This legislation, which remains unpopular with seniors, cuts Medicare, cripples Medicare Advantage, establishes a ‘Medicare IRS’, and generally provides for a bureaucratic takeover of important health care decisions — all unpopular with seniors.” [60Plus.org, [6/26/12](#)]

BLOCKING MEDICAID EXPANSION, COULD HAVE BARRED 454,000 OHIOANS FROM ACCESS TO HEALTHCARE

By Expanding Medicaid, Ohio Could Expand Access To 454,000 People. According to Families USA, 454,000 Ohioans could gain access to Medicaid in the state. [Families USA, [4/23/15](#)]

Within The First Three Months Of Eligibility, About 54,000 Newly Eligible Ohio Medicaid Recipients Enrolled. According to the Cleveland Plain Dealer, “About 54,000 people who became eligible for Medicaid coverage in Ohio on Jan. 1 have enrolled in the program through the online portal that the state launched late last year. But that represents just a fraction of newly eligible participants that the state expects to have signed up by the middle of next year.” [Cleveland Plain Dealer, [3/28/14](#)]

“Local Hospitals Have To Serve Fewer Uninsured Patients As A Result Of Ohio’s Expanded Medicaid Program.” According to the Columbus Dispatch, “Local hospitals have to serve fewer uninsured patients as a result of Ohio’s expanded Medicaid program. [...] At The Dispatch’s request, some hospitals disclosed for the first time the size of the decline they’re seeing in their uninsured — or ‘self-pay’ — patients. The Medicaid expansion began on Jan. 1 this year. Between July 2013 and June 2014, Ohio State University’s Wexner Medical Center provided care to 41,000 uninsured patients — a 19 percent drop from the previous 12 months. ‘It’s obviously a significant shift for us,’ said Debra Lowe, the hospital’s administrative director of revenue cycle. She said she expects a comparable decline in Wexner Medical Center’s charity-care costs, which amounted to \$37 million in fiscal year 2013. That would translate into savings of \$5.5 million to \$7 million annually. Mount Carmel Health System, meanwhile, saw a 10 percent decline in uninsured patients during the first half of this year compared to the last six months of 2013.” [Columbus Dispatch, [7/27/14](#)]

Ohioans Who “Delayed Or Went Without Needed Care While Uninsured” Before Medicaid Expansion “Obtained Needed Care, Leading To Improvements In Their Health And Quality Of Life.” According to the Kaiser Family Foundation, “This brief examines the experiences of low-income adults in three states that have made varied Medicaid expansion decisions: Ohio, which adopted the ACA Medicaid expansion, Arkansas which implemented the Medicaid expansion through a ‘Private Option’ waiver, and Missouri, which has not adopted the expansion. [...] Participants in all three locations described how they delayed or went without needed care while uninsured, sometimes leading to worsening of conditions. All participants said that they tried to avoid obtaining care while uninsured because of the cost, which sometimes led to the worsening of conditions that ultimately resulted in higher-cost care, missed work, and disruptions to family relationships. They noted that they would put off seeking care until a condition becomes unbearable. They said when they did seek care they would try to use clinics and urgent care centers to minimize costs, but sometimes the only source of care they could turn to was the emergency room, often leaving them with large bills they could not afford. After gaining coverage, adults

in Little Rock and Columbus obtained needed care, leading to improvements in their health and quality of life.” [Kaiser Family Foundation, [6/17/15](#)]

Obtaining Coverage Allowed Ohioans To “Better Manage Chronic Conditions, Led To The Diagnosis Of Conditions, And Contributed To Significant Improvements In Their Health And Quality Of Life.” According to the Kaiser Family Foundation, “While Arkansas and Ohio implemented the Medicaid expansion in different ways, participants in both Little Rock and Columbus said that obtaining coverage enabled them to access needed care to address health problems as well as primary and preventive care. They described how obtaining coverage allowed them to better manage chronic conditions, led to the diagnosis of conditions, and contributed to significant improvements in their health and quality of life. Participants also said obtaining coverage and care provided them a huge feeling of relief and sense of security and enhanced their overall well-being, ability to work, and relationships. Participants indicated that they were grateful and proud that their states had expanded Medicaid, providing them access to coverage.” [Kaiser Family Foundation, [6/17/15](#)]

Even With Higher Than Expected Enrollment Medicaid Expansion In Ohio Cost \$2 Billion Less Than Estimated

“Despite Higher-Than-Expected Enrollment Of Ohioans Newly Eligible For Medicaid, Overall Costs Of The Tax-Funded Health-Insurance Program...Were Nearly \$2 Billion Below Original Estimates.” According to the Columbus Dispatch, “Despite higher-than-expected enrollment of Ohioans newly eligible for Medicaid, overall costs of the tax-funded health-insurance program in the most-recent fiscal year were nearly \$2 billion below original estimates. According to a report released on Wednesday by Gov. John Kasich’s administration, total Medicaid spending was \$23.5 billion in the fiscal year that ended June 30; that was 7.6 percent less than projected.” [Columbus Dispatch, [8/13/15](#)]

“The State’s Lower-Than-Anticipated Tab Came In The Wake Of Kasich’s Controversial Decision Two Years Ago To Expand Medicaid Under President Barack Obama’s Affordable Care Act.” According to the Columbus Dispatch, “The state’s lower-than-anticipated tab came in the wake of Kasich’s controversial decision two years ago to expand Medicaid under President Barack Obama’s Affordable Care Act. Expanded eligibility brought more than 500,000 low-income adults without dependent children onto Medicaid rolls last year, pushing overall enrollment to nearly 3 million.” [Columbus Dispatch, [8/13/15](#)]

Koch Groups Opposed Public Transportation In Ohio

CATO INSTITUTE FOUGHT A PLAN TO BUILD HIGH SPEED RAIL IN OHIO DESPITE GROWING SUPPORT

Cato Institute’s Randal O’Toole Published A Report Called “Why Ohio Should Not Build High-Speed Rail” For The Buckeye Institute. According to the report “Why Ohio Should Not Build High-Speed Rail” by Randal O’Toole, “For all of these reasons—high costs, tiny benefits, and interference with property rights—Ohio should not attempt to provide high-speed rail service.” [Randal O’Toole, accessed [7/13/15](#)]

- **Randal O’Toole Is A Cato Institute Senior Fellow.** According to the biography of Randal O’Toole on the Cato institute website, “Randal O’Toole is a Cato Institute Senior Fellow working on urban growth, public land, and transportation issues. O’Toole’s research on national forest management, culminating in his 1988 book, *Reforming the Forest Service*, has had a major influence on Forest Service policy and on-the-ground management.” [Cato.org, viewed [8/14/15](#)]

O’Toole Claimed To Have “Helped The States Of Florida, Wisconsin And Ohio Avoid Costly High-Speed Rail Projects Despite Promises Of Federal Dollars.” According to the PostBulletin.com, “In the end, O’Toole said he hoped those who attended Monday’s meeting would be armed with the knowledge to educate lawmakers and civic leaders. In the past, he has helped the states of Florida, Wisconsin and Ohio avoid costly high-speed rail projects despite promises of federal dollars.” [PostBulletin.com, [9/30/14](#)]

Cincinnati Business Courier Headline: “Support For Chicago-Cincinnati High Speed Rail Grows.” [Cincinnati Business Courier, [10/22/14](#)]

Cincinnati City Councilwoman Amy Murray: “With The Way Airfares Are Going Up...High-Speed Rail On A Consistent Basis To Chicago Could Be A Game-Changer.” According to the Cincinnati Enquirer, ““This is without knowing the cost, but just the concept is a great idea,” Cincinnati City Councilwoman Amy Murray said. ‘With the way airfares are going up and the support we’ve seen for Megabus, high-speed rail on a consistent basis to Chicago could be a game-changer.’” [Cincinnati Enquirer, [9/23/14](#)]

Chicago Was The Second Most Popular Destination For Travelers Leaving From Cincinnati. According to Cincinnati.com, “Over-the-Rhine resident Derek Bauman so far has won support from some local political leaders for the idea of offering daily, high-speed train service to Chicago, a popular business and leisure destination for Greater Cincinnati residents. [...] There is demand for travel to Chicago from Greater Cincinnati, Bauman said. Chicago ranked No. 2 in most popular destinations from Cincinnati/Northern Kentucky International Airport between July 2013 and June 2014, according to federal transportation data.” [Cincinnati.com, [9/23/14](#)]

AFP CLAIMED THAT ACTIVISTS HAD CONTACTED THEM TO SHARE THEIR CONCERNS ABOUT THE A BRIDGE PROJECT IN DUBLIN, OHIO

AFP-Ohio Requested Email Correspondence On The Bridge Street Corridor Project’s Genesis And Development From The City Of Dublin. According to a press release from Americans for Prosperity – Ohio, “Americans for Prosperity (AFP) Ohio has submitted another request for information on the Dublin Bridge Street Corridor Project. ‘The City did not provide any email correspondence in response to our request last month. We believe that email correspondence may be a vital component for understanding the project’s genesis and development, and therefore have submitted another request to the City,’ said Eli Miller, State Director of Americans for Prosperity Ohio. ‘As we await the information within the email correspondence, what we do know is that the City has spent millions of taxpayer dollars on this project. A number of activists in the City have contacted us to share their concerns about the lack of return they are seeing on this investment with the project. It is our hope that this revised request will shed light on the many remaining questions. We want to make sure taxpayer money is being spent wisely. If that turns out not to be the case, we will work to hold public officials accountable.’” [Americans For Prosperity-Ohio Press Release, [1/22/15](#)]

- **AFP-OH State Director Eli Miller: “A Number Of Activists In The City Have Contacted Us To Share Their Concerns About The Lack Of Return They Are Seeing On This Investment.”** According to a press release from Americans for Prosperity – Ohio, “Americans for Prosperity (AFP) Ohio has submitted another request for information on the Dublin Bridge Street Corridor Project. ‘The City did not provide any email correspondence in response to our request last month. We believe that email correspondence may be a vital component for understanding the project’s genesis and development, and therefore have submitted another request to the City,’ said Eli Miller, State Director of Americans for Prosperity Ohio. ‘As we await the information within the email correspondence, what we do know is that the City has spent millions of taxpayer dollars on this project. A number of activists in the City have contacted us to share their concerns about the lack of return they are seeing on this investment with the project. It is our hope that this revised request will shed light on the many remaining questions. We want to make sure taxpayer money is being spent wisely. If that turns out not to be the case, we will work to hold public officials accountable.’” [Americans For Prosperity-Ohio Press Release, [1/22/15](#)]

The Bridge Street Corridor Project Was Designed To Attract Youth To Live In Dublin. According to WCMH, “While there may be trendy places to shop and eat, and with the presence of so many high-tech and youth-oriented companies there are really cool places to work, but there are very few apartments or condos for young professionals to live. They like working and playing in Dublin, but they can’t afford to live in the area. Sara Blatnik and Samantha Kennedy are prime examples. They’re both 25 years old. They both work in downtown Dublin, and they both live elsewhere because they just can’t find anything affordable nearby. ‘I was actually just recently looking and anything that was in this area, it wasn’t something that I even considered,’ said Blatnik. That will be addressed with the Bridge Street Corridor project. There is a lot of attention on the shopping, restaurants, and park space that will be on the east side of the Scioto River. But the key to its success may not be getting people to visit, but getting them to stay.’ Apartments here are a little pricey compared to apartments in other areas kind of in the suburbs of Columbus,’ said Kennedy.” [WCMH, 10/14/13]

- **Since 2000, Dublin’s Population Grew 33 Percent, But Only 3 Percent Of The Population Was Between 20 And 24 Years Old And Less Than 10 Percent Was Between 25 And 34, Much Less Than The State’s Average.** According to WCMH, “Since 2000, Dublin’s population has grown 33 percent, but there is an area where it is not growing. Only 3 percent of the city’s population is between 20 and 24 years old, and less than 10 percent is between 25

and 34. That's much less than the state's average, and for the but [sic] I think the [sic] younger group, less than half the state's average." [WCMH, 10/14/13]

- **Columbus Dispatch: The Bridge Street Corridor Project Was “An Ambitious Plan To Redevelop Dublin's Core Area Into A Walkable Center City, One With A Denser Population And A Hipper, More-Urban Vibe.”** According to the Columbus Dispatch, “A vote by the Dublin City Council last night put in place the zoning necessary to give life to what has been, until now, a transformation on paper only. City officials have worked more than three years on the Bridge Street Corridor Project, an ambitious plan to redevelop Dublin's core area into a walkable center city, one with a denser population and a hipper, more-urban vibe.” [Columbus Dispatch, [4/10/12](#)]
- **Columbus Dispatch: In January 2013, Officials Said “The Work Could Be Completed In A Few Years, And Certainly Within The Decade.”** According to the Columbus Dispatch, “Officials say the work could be completed in a few years, and certainly within the decade, though no costs have been assigned to the projects.” [Columbus Dispatch, [1/27/13](#)]

Kochs Supported School Vouchers In Ohio

AFP-OHIO SUPPORTED OHIO'S SCHOOL VOUCHER PROGRAM

AFP-Ohio Supported Ohio's School Voucher Program. According to an AFP-Ohio press release, “Americans for Prosperity-Ohio is applauding the Ohio House and Senate for their approval of a school voucher program. The program, which was included in the state budget, will be available to low-income kindergartners around the state this fall. ‘This is a great victory for families across Ohio. We applaud the members of the legislature and Governor Kasich for their work to expand school choice in Ohio,’ said Eli Miller, State Director of Americans for Prosperity-Ohio.” [AFP-Ohio Press Release, [6/28/13](#)]

- **AFP Participated In A “Whistle-Stop Train Tour” In Support Of “School Choice.”** According to National School Choice Week, “Topeka will be a stop on a whistle-stop train tour in support of education reform: the National School Choice Week ‘Special.’ [...] National School Choice Week is planning the event in cooperation with Americans For Prosperity, FreedomWorks, The Friedman Foundation For Educational Choice, K-12 Schools, the Kansas Catholic Conference and Kansas Policy Institute. This is the third annual National School Choice Week. Planned by a diverse, bipartisan coalition of citizens and organizations, National School Choice Week 2013, runs from Jan. 27 through Feb. 2 and will feature more than 3,500 events spanning all 50 states.” [SchoolChoiceWeek.com, 1/20/13]
- **The Whistle-Stop Tour Went Through Cleveland And Toledo, Ohio.** According to National School Choice Week, the whistle-stop tour went through Cleveland, Ohio and Toledo, Ohio. [SchoolChoiceWeek.com, 1/20/13]

OHIO'S PUBLIC SCHOOLS LOST \$75 MILLION TO SCHOOL VOUCHERS IN 2012 ALONE, OVERALL COST COULD GO AS HIGH AS \$110 MILLION ANNUALLY

Ohio's 2013 School Voucher Program Expanded Ohio's Existing “EdChoice” Voucher Program. According to the Cleveland Plain Dealer, “Up to 2,000 Ohio kindergartners from low-income families will be able to use state vouchers for private-school tuition this fall, thanks to a provision in the state budget approved last month. The new income-based program, which is taking applications until July 31, expands on the existing EdChoice voucher program. That program can be used only by children who would otherwise have gone to public schools with low state test scores. It also is Ohio's fifth voucher program, putting the state ahead of all others in the number of voucher options available to parents, according to the American Federation for Children. The Washington, D.C.-based group advocates for school choice and monitors voucher programs nationwide.” [Cleveland Plain Dealer, [7/22/13](#)]

Ohio's Public Schools Lost \$75 Million To EdChoice Vouchers In Fiscal Year 2012. According to the Coshocton Tribune, “Damon Asbury, director of legislative services with the Ohio School Boards Association, said the reason essentially boils down to the state trying to solve a problem that doesn't exist. ‘The vast number of children are enrolled in our traditional public schools and believe they are being appropriately served,’ he said. The clash of ideas comes with millions of dollars at stake. Ohio's public schools lost \$75 million to EdChoice vouchers in fiscal year 2012 - with the money being deducted based on the number of children who left their school. In addition, the state allocated \$25 million during the course of two years for the new low-income voucher program, which comes from lottery proceeds.” [Coshocton Tribune, 1/19/14]

Cincinnati Enquirer Columnist Krista Ramsey: “The New Income-Based Voucher Will Cost Ohioans \$8.5 Million The First Year And Could Reach \$110 Million Annually When It's Fully Implemented In 2026.” According to an opinion by columnist Krista Ramsey for the Cincinnati Enquirer, “But the new income-based voucher program is open to students who live in any district, even the highest-performing in the state. It will cost Ohioans \$8.5 million the first year and could reach \$110 million annually when it's fully implemented in 2026 (the program starts with kindergarteners and then adds a grade level each year). These aren't funds to free students ‘trapped’ in awful schools. This is funding that could have been designated for all Ohio schools, some of which have met every criterion and jumped through every hoop the state has held up for them, some of which serve the state's poorest children and many of which are strapped for cash.” [Krista Ramsey - Cincinnati Enquirer, 8/30/13]

- **Ramsey: This Is Funding That Could Have Been Designated For All Ohio Schools, Some Of Which Have Met Every Criterion, And “Serve The State's Poorest Children And Many Of Which Are Strapped For Cash.”**

According to an opinion by columnist Krista Ramsey for the Cincinnati Enquirer, “But the new income-based voucher program is open to students who live in any district, even the highest-performing in the state. It will cost Ohioans \$8.5 million the first year and could reach \$110 million annually when it's fully implemented in 2026 (the program starts with kindergarteners and then adds a grade level each year). These aren't funds to free students ‘trapped’ in awful schools. This is funding that could have been designated for all Ohio schools, some of which have met every criterion and jumped through every hoop the state has held up for them, some of which serve the state's poorest children and many of which are strapped for cash.” [Krista Ramsey - Cincinnati Enquirer, 8/30/13]

The Vouchers Can Continue To Be Applied As “Families' Earnings Increase By Up To Four Times The Poverty Level, Or \$92,200 For A Family Of Four.” According to the Cincinnati Enquirer, “After their first year with a low-income voucher, students can continue receiving vouchers even as their family income rises. The voucher amounts will fall as families' earnings increase by up to four times the poverty level, or \$92,200 for a family of four. After that, students no longer qualify.” [Cincinnati Enquirer, 8/24/13]

- **Innovation Ohio Education Policy Fellow Stephen Dyer: “It's No Longer Helping Poor Kids In Struggling Schools To Escape Those Struggling Schools.”** According to the Cincinnati Enquirer, “Critics say the EdChoice expansion will cover nearly 80 percent of Ohio households and that it diverts money from public schools. ‘It's no longer helping poor kids in struggling schools to escape those struggling schools. Now it's any kid, regardless of what school you go to,’ said Stephen Dyer, education policy fellow at Innovation Ohio, a think tank in Columbus. ‘I'm wondering how much of this is really about school choice and how much is about de-funding public education.’” [Cincinnati Enquirer, 8/24/13]

The Number Of Vouchers Ohio Made Available Annually Far Outstripped Demand. According to the Cincinnati Enquirer, “‘It will open up private schools in a way that has not been done before in Ohio,’ said Sarah Pechan, senior director of programs for School Choice Ohio, a Columbus-based organization. Although Ohio makes available 60,000 vouchers a year, it far outstrips demand. Less than 17,000 Ohio students used EdChoice vouchers in the last school year. [...] Opponents say the policy in the long run will siphon students and money from public schools and weaken teachers unions. ‘There are a lot of people on the Republican side of the aisle who want public education to feel the pain. They believe in starving the beast,’ said Steve Moore, a Princeton school board member and leader of a pro-public schools group called the Coalition for Fiscal Fairness in Ohio, based in Solon.” [Cincinnati Enquirer, 8/24/13]

- **The Legislature Created 2,000 Vouchers For Low-Income Kindergartners Across The State But Just Over Half Were Claimed.** According to the Coshocton Tribune, “Ohio repeatedly has moved to expand school choice throughout the state, but it appears the Legislature is well ahead of demand. The state offers 60,000 vouchers for children in struggling public schools each year, and fewer than one-third were used this school year. In June, as part of the state budget bill, the Legislature created 2,000 vouchers for low-income kindergartners across the state. Slightly more than half of those were claimed. Fewer than 20 children from Coshocton County use the vouchers.” [Coshocton Tribune, 1/19/14]

Kochs Advocated For Privatizing The Veterans Administration

CONCERNED VETERANS FOR AMERICA HELD EVENTS IN OHIO AND DISCUSSED THEIR PLAN TO “BREAK UP THE VETERANS ADMINISTRATION”

CVA Held A Meeting In Columbus, OH And Discussed Their Plan To “Break Up The Veterans Administration.”

According to WBNS-10TV, “One national Veterans Group is in Columbus with a big message: they say it's time to break up the Veterans Administration. They believe it's the only way to improve Veterans Health Care. The idea is similar to school vouchers. Parents get public money to pay for either public or private school. The idea would be the same for the VA: allowing patients to see either public or private doctors. Dozens of veterans gathered to at the Hyatt Regency in Downtown Columbus to hear ideas they believe will improve the level of Veterans health care in Ohio and nationwide. [...] The plan from advocacy group Concerned Veterans For America would break up the Veterans Administration. Vets could visit a private doctor and get the visit paid by a new ‘Veterans Health Insurance Program.’ The ‘Veterans Accountable Care Organization’ would run existing VA Clinics and Hospitals.” [10tv.com, [3/30/15](#)]

- **CVA’s VA Idea Was “Similar To School Vouchers.”** According to WBNS-10TV, “The idea is similar to school vouchers. Parents get public money to pay for either public or private school. The idea would be the same for the VA: allowing patients to see either public or private doctors.” [10tv.com, [3/30/15](#)]

Ohio CVA Director Rich Youngblood: VA Sec. Bob McDonald “Is Becoming Part Of The Problem He Was Charged With Fixing.” According to a post by Ohio CVA Director Rich Youngblood on Medium, “When Bob McDonald was appointed VA Secretary last year, Concerned Veterans for America had high hopes that he would earnestly work to implement the Veterans Access, Choice, and Accountability Act and finally confront the VA’s toxic culture. Unfortunately, it is becoming more apparent every week that Sec. McDonald is becoming part of the problem he was charged with fixing.” [Rich Youngblood – Medium, [2/23/15](#)]

Youngblood: McDonald Claimed 60 VA Employees Had Been Fired For Manipulating Wait Times, But A Report Indicated “Only Seven Employees Have Actually Been Fired.” According to a post by Ohio CVA Director Rich Youngblood on Medium, “During an appearance on NBC’s Meet the Press, Sec. [Bob] McDonald claimed that 60 VA employees had been fired for manipulating patient wait time data. But according to a weekly report VA provides the House Veterans Affairs Committee, only seven employees have actually been fired for this offense.” [Rich Youngblood – Medium, [2/23/15](#)]

Youngblood: “If Half As Many Employees Have Been Removed Under McDonald” As Under Former Secretary Eric Shinseki “Is He Really Holding People Accountable?” According to a post by Ohio CVA Director Rich Youngblood on Medium, “He also claimed that ‘900 [VA employees] have been fired’ during his time as head of the VA, but if these numbers are correct, then the pace of VA firings under Secretary [Bob] McDonald is actually slower than it was under Secretary [Eric] Shinseki—with 4,300 employees being fired or removed in Shinseki’s last two years in office. If half as many employees have been removed under McDonald, is he really holding people accountable? Following a massive—and confirmed—national wait list scandal, shouldn’t the rate of firings be up? These questions remain unanswered.” [Rich Youngblood – Medium, [2/23/15](#)]

Youngblood: “VA Leadership And The Obama Administration Have Broadcast Loud And Clear That They’re Not Going To Be The Ones To Bring Accountability” To The Veterans Administration. According to a post by Ohio CVA Director Rich Youngblood on Medium, “VA leadership and the Obama administration have broadcast loud and clear that they’re not going to be the ones to bring accountability the VA. That’s why we, as veterans, military families, and patriotic Americans must serve as watchdogs, to make sure that veterans are a priority—not an afterthought—to those who are supposed to be serving them.” [Rich Youngblood – Medium, [2/23/15](#)]

Youngblood Announced That CVA’s “Fixing Veterans Healthcare Taskforce” Would Hold An Event In Ohio In March 2015. According to a post by Ohio CVA Director Rich Youngblood on Medium, “On Monday, March 9th, CVA’s Fixing Veterans Healthcare Taskforce is coming to Ohio! Join us as we continue the conversation and take action on VA Reform: Fixing Veterans Healthcare Ohio Summit Monday, March 9th | 11:00am-1:00pm Hyatt Regency (350 High St. Columbus, OH)” [Rich Youngblood – Medium, [2/23/15](#)]

CVA Special Operations Advisor Jason Beardsley Wrote A Letter To The Editor In The Columbus Dispatch That Recommended “Turning The VA Into An Independent, Government-Chartered Nonprofit Organization.” According to a Letter to the Editor by CVA special operations advisor Jason Beardsley in the Columbus Dispatch, “Ohio’s Veterans Affairs system is rife with problems, as many of the state’s nearly 878,000 veterans have found out the hard way. [...] my organization, Concerned Veterans for America unveiled the ‘Veterans Independence Act,’ a series of VA reforms. It would

turn the VA back into the veteran-focused agency it was founded to be. We recommend turning the VA into an independent, government-chartered nonprofit organization. This would free it from the congressional budget process, empowering it to focus on providing health care.” [Jason Beardsley – Columbus Dispatch, 3/29/15]

- **Beardsley: “We Also Recommended Separating The Running Of VA Health-Care Facilities From The Administration Of VA Insurance.”** According to a Letter to the Editor by CVA special operations advisor Jason Beardsley in the Columbus Dispatch, “We also recommended separating the running of VA health-care facilities from the administration of VA insurance. This would help the agency emphasize its core efficiency in treating veterans with service-connected injuries.” [Jason Beardsley – Columbus Dispatch, 3/29/15]

CVA Announced Its 2015 “Defend Freedom Tour” Would Stop In Ohio

CVA Announced Its 2015 “Defend Freedom Tour” Would Stop In Ohio. According to a press release from Concerned Veterans for America, “Arlington, Va. – Concerned Veterans for America (CVA), a leading national veterans’ advocacy organization, today announced the launch of the 2015 National Defend Freedom Tour including an all-star lineup of prominent speakers, performers and special guests with a mission to deliver a simple message to cities across the country – honor service, defend freedom and take action. The tour is scheduled to visit 23 cities in 12 states beginning April 17th and running through September 11th weekend: New York Ohio Pennsylvania Texas Virginia Florida South Carolina New Hampshire North Carolina” [Concerned Veterans for America Press Release, [3/5/15](#)]

- **The “Defend Freedom Tour” Made Stops In Columbus, Cincinnati, And Akron In Ohio.** According to the Defend Freedom Tour website, the “Defend Freedom Tour” made stops in Columbus, Cincinnati, and Akron. [DefendFreedomTour.com, accessed [7/29/15](#)]
- **After “Defend Freedom Tour” Events In 2014, CVA Signed Up Volunteers “To Be Part Of ‘Strike Teams.’”** According to The Washington Post, “The Koch-backed group Concerned Veterans for America, now in the midst of a 10-city ‘Defend Freedom Summer Tour,’ is mixing music performances with speeches lambasting the Obama administration’s handling of the patient backlog at veterans hospitals. With stops in Virginia, Ohio, Nevada, North Carolina, New Mexico and Florida, the tour features performances by the rock band Madison Rising and former ‘American Idol’ contestant Ayla Brown. After each event, the group signs up volunteers to be part of ‘strike teams’ that will hold house parties and staff phone banks.” [Washington Post, [6/18/14](#)]

CVA Said Guests At The Tour Would Be Encouraged To Sign Up For Grassroots Training. According to a press release from Concerned Veterans for America, “At the events, guests are encouraged to visit the CVA action center to sign up to get involved in CVA’s proprietary grassroots trainings. Guests of the Defend Freedom Tour will have the opportunity to organize within their communities to advocate for a strong America, improve the well-being of veterans and their families and hold status-quo politicians—of all stripes—accountable.” [Concerned Veterans for America Press Release, [3/5/15](#)]

MOST VETERANS SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS HAVE REJECTED PRIVATIZATION PLANS

Stars And Stripes: Most Veterans Service Organizations “Have Generally Been Cool To Privatization Plans.”

According to Stars and Stripes, “Most veterans service organizations skipped the [CVA] event and have generally been cool to privatization plans.” [Stars and Stripes, [2/26/15](#)]

VSO Joint Letter: Veterans with Combat-Related Ailments “Cannot Receive The Holistic Specialized Care They Need In The Private Sector And Will Always Require A Robust, Fully Funded VA System.” According to a joint letter signed by 19 veterans service organizations, “In addition, while developing final legislation designed to expand access to care outside VA, Congress must never lose sight of the continuing need to increase VA’s internal capacity to provide specialized care to veterans who rely heavily or entirely on the VA system, such as catastrophically disabled veterans. Veterans with spinal cord injury or dysfunction, amputation, blindness, PTSD and polytrauma, cannot receive the holistic specialized care they need in the private sector and will always require a robust, fully funded VA system to provide cutting edge services they deserve. These men and women have also earned the right to rely on a VA system capable of providing all of their primary health care needs as well, which is how the current system was designed and must continue to operate.” [Joint VSO Letter On VA Access Legislation Conference, [6/17/14](#)]

The VA System “Outperforms The Rest Of The Health Care System By Just About Every Metric.”

Washington Post Editorial: The VA System “Outperforms The Rest Of The Health Care System By Just About Every Metric.” According to an editorial by the Washington Post, “But as was made clear in recent testimony to the Senate Committee on Veterans’ Affairs, studies have shown that the VA system, which serves almost 6.5 million veterans annually, as a whole outperforms the rest of the health care system by just about every metric. Surveys also show that veterans give VA hospitals and clinics a higher customer satisfaction than patients give private-sector hospitals.” [Editorial – Washington Post, [5/21/14](#)]

The VA Had Higher Levels Of Performance Than Private Providers For Seven Out Of Nine Indicators And VA Patients Endorsed Similar Levels Of Satisfaction With VA Care As Did Patients In The Private Sector. According to a post by Arthur L. Kellermann on the Rand Corporation blog, “In their report, the RAND-Altarum team noted that although the VA has not yet reached the high standards it has set for itself, between 2007 and 2009 quality improved significantly despite substantial growth in the number of veterans served. In fact, the team determined that the VA already has higher levels of performance than private providers for seven out of nine indicators, and VA patients endorse similar levels of satisfaction with VA care as patients in the private sector.” [Rand.org/blog, [8/8/12](#)]

Ohio Had The Sixth Largest Veterans Population In The Nation

Ohio Had The Sixth Largest Veterans Population In The Nation. According to the Ohio Department of Veteran Services Annual Report, “Ohio Currently has the 6th Largest Veterans Population in the Nation.” [Ohio Department of Veteran Services Annual Report, [8/1/14](#)]

- **Nearly 900,000 Veterans Lived In Ohio.** According to the Ohio Department of Veteran Services Annual Report, “The nearly 900,000 veterans who live in our state – the sixth largest population of veterans in the U.S. – are a testament to Ohio’s legacy of men and women willing to answer the call to service.” [Ohio Department of Veteran Services Annual Report, [8/1/14](#)]

“In Federal FY 2013, The VA Spent Over \$6.6 Billion In Ohio.” According to the Ohio Department of Veteran Services Annual Report, “These benefits are comprised of disability compensation for injuries, health care, educational assistance, home loans and many other programs provided by the VA. In federal FY 2013, the VA spent over \$6.6 billion in Ohio, a record high in VA spending in the state and an increase of over \$838 million from the previous year. These dollars directly benefited Ohio veterans as well as the state’s local communities and colleges.” [Ohio Department of Veteran Services Annual Report, [8/1/14](#)]

- **Nearly \$1.84 Billion Of That Total Went To Direct Compensation To Veterans.** According to the Ohio Department of Veteran Services Annual Report, “In turn, this is a great economic engine for our state – for example, the VA spent a state record-high \$6.6 billion in federal Fiscal Year 2013, with nearly \$1.84 billion of that total going to direct compensation to veterans.” [Ohio Department of Veteran Services Annual Report, [8/1/14](#)]

Previous Koch Influence On Ohio

CITIZENS FOR A SOUND ECONOMY WAS ACTIVE IN OHIO

CSE Was Created In 1984 By David Koch And Richard Fink. According to the New Yorker, “In 1984, David Koch and Richard Fink created yet another organization, and [President of FreedomWorks Matt] Kibbe joined them. The group, Citizens for a Sound Economy, seemed like a grassroots movement, but according to the Center for Public Integrity it was sponsored principally by the Kochs, who provided \$7.9 million between 1986 and 1993.” [New Yorker, [8/30/10](#)]

CSE Was “Principally” Sponsored By The Kochs, Who Gave \$7.9 Million To The Group Between 1986 And 1993. According to the New Yorker, “The group, Citizens for a Sound Economy, seemed like a grassroots movement, but according to the Center for Public Integrity it was sponsored principally by the Kochs, who provided \$7.9 million between 1986 and 1993.” [New Yorker, [8/30/10](#)]

- **The Koch Brothers Were “Very Controlling” Over CSE.** According to the New Yorker, “Within a few years, the group had mobilized fifty paid field workers, in twenty-six states, to rally voters behind the Kochs’ agenda. David and

Charles, according to one participant, were ‘very controlling, very top down. You can’t build an organization with them. They run it.’” [New Yorker, [8/30/10](#)]

Citizens For A Sound Economy Targeted “Activist” Democratic Judges Being Challenged By “Reformer” Republican Judges In Ohio’s 2000 Supreme Court Race

Citizens For A Sound Economy “Developed A Strategy... To Reach The Most Likely Voters” On Tort Reform And Distributed Voter Guides On “Activist” Democratic Judges Being Challenged By “Reformer” Republican Judges.

According to a post on the FreedomWorks website, “In Ohio, the court is an activist court by 4-3. Two Supreme Court justices were up for re-election: one reform justice and one activist justice. Republican Judge Terrence O’Donnell challenged the activist, Justice Alice Resnick (D). Justice Resnick wrote the decision to strike down the tort reform laws in Ohio. In the other race, Democratic Judge Tim Black challenged the reformer, Justice Deborah Cook (R). The Resnick/O’Donnell race was one of the most closely watched races this year in the tort reform community because of Resnick’s role in striking down the tort reform legislation. Like Michigan, CSE hit the ground running in Ohio once we garnered the resources necessary. We immediately developed a strategy that would allow us to reach the most likely voters who were in areas that had significant voter drop-off when it came to voting for Supreme Court candidates (down-ballot voting). Our 23 counties were further prioritized into four target zones. CSE took advantage of every political event, meeting, gathering, etc., to get our message out. In the final days leading up to the election, we deployed several activists and staff in key neighborhoods to distribute our voter guides and yard signs.” [FreedomWorks.org, [11/8/00](#)]

Citizens For A Sound Economy Targeted Two Democratic Candidates For Ohio’s Supreme Court Races In 2000,

Accusing Them Of Being “In The Pockets Of Trial Lawyers.” According to the Columbus Dispatch, “Another ‘education’ committee has joined the mulligan stew of groups attempting to influence this year’s Ohio Supreme Court races. Ohio Citizens for a Sound Economy, the Buckeye chapter of a national organization that promotes free- market economics and reduced government, released a statement yesterday with the headline, ‘Some Ohio Supreme Court candidates in the pockets of trial lawyers.’ Jason Gross, director of the state organization, said trial lawyers have given hundreds of thousands of dollars to the campaigns of Justice Alice Robie Resnick and Judge Tim Black of the Hamilton County Municipal Court. Both are Democrats. Resnick seeks election to a third six-year term on the court. Black is attempting to unseat Justice Deborah L. Cook, who is seeking her second term on the court. Resnick is opposed by Judge Terrence O’Donnell of the Cuyahoga County Court of Appeals. Cook and O’Donnell are Republicans. Gross said less than 1 percent of the contributions to Cook and O’Donnell come from trial lawyers.” [Columbus Dispatch, 10/19/00]

- **Ohio CSE Director Jason Gross “Said Trial Lawyers Have Given Hundreds Of Thousands Of Dollars” To The Campaigns Of Supreme Court Candidates Justice Alice Robie Resnick And Judge Tim Black.** “Ohio Citizens for a Sound Economy, the Buckeye chapter of a national organization that promotes free- market economics and reduced government, released a statement yesterday with the headline, ‘Some Ohio Supreme Court candidates in the pockets of trial lawyers.’ Jason Gross, director of the state organization, said trial lawyers have given hundreds of thousands of dollars to the campaigns of Justice Alice Robie Resnick and Judge Tim Black of the Hamilton County Municipal Court. Both are Democrats.” [Columbus Dispatch, 10/19/00]

Citizens For A Sound Economy Mounted “A Ground War Against Resnick.” According to the Columbus Dispatch, “A TV ad bashing Ohio Supreme Court Justice Alice Robie Resnick is legal because it is educational -- not political -- an Ohio Elections Commission panel ruled yesterday. [...] And another national organization, Citizens for a Sound Economy, is mounting a ground war against Resnick. Jason Gross, Ohio director for the group, said it will organize grass-roots support through speaking engagements and literature distribution at fairs and festivals. ‘We have a shark for a mascot,’ Gross said. ‘He’s “Sharkman,” and he tells the people how some greedy trial lawyers are costing consumers and taxpayers a lot of money. Actually, he’s a reformed trial lawyer who has come over to our side.’” [Columbus Dispatch, 10/20/00]

“CSE Took Advantage Of Every Political Event, Meeting, Gathering, Etc” To Get Their “Message Out” On Ohio’s Supreme Court Elections.

According to a post on the FreedomWorks website, “CSE was active with our state Supreme Court voter education efforts in four states this year: Alabama, Illinois, Ohio, and Michigan. Educating voters in a state Supreme Court battle is tough: it has to involve on-the-ground activities with intensive door-to-door voter education efforts. [...] Like Michigan, CSE hit the ground running in Ohio once we garnered the resources necessary. We immediately developed a strategy that would allow us to reach the most likely voters who were in areas that had significant voter drop-off when it came to voting for Supreme Court candidates (down-ballot voting). Our 23 counties were further prioritized into four target zones. CSE took advantage of every political event, meeting, gathering, etc., to get our message out. In the final days leading

up to the election, we deployed several activists and staff in key neighborhoods to distribute our voter guides and yard signs.” [FreedomWorks.org, [11/8/00](#)]

CSE: “Ohio Supreme Court Races: Critical To CSE’s Tort Reform Efforts.” According to a post on the FreedomWorks website, “Ohio Supreme Court Races: Critical to CSE’s Tort Reform Efforts. In Ohio, the court is an activist court by 4-3. Two Supreme Court justices were up for re-election: one reform justice and one activist justice. Republican Judge Terrence O’Donnell challenged the activist, Justice Alice Resnick (D). Justice Resnick wrote the decision to strike down the tort reform laws in Ohio. In the other race, Democratic Judge Tim Black challenged the reformer, Justice Deborah Cook (R).” [FreedomWorks.org, [11/8/00](#)]

CSE Claimed To Have Printed Almost Half A Million Pieces Of “Supreme Court Education Literature And Voter Guides” In Just Three And A Half Months. According to a post on the FreedomWorks website, “All told, in just three and a half months, CSE: Attended over 50 events, Distributed 4,000 Supreme Court yard signs, Printed 435,000 pieces of Supreme Court education literature and voter guides, Traveled over 17,000 miles, Reached over 5,000 people face-to-face with our message, and Distributed over 1,000 tort reform novelty items. Additionally, we visited key newspapers and radio shows to get our message out on these races and garnered media coverage from these efforts.” [FreedomWorks.org, [11/8/00](#)]

- **CSE Claimed To Have Distributed 4,000 Supreme Court Yard Signs In Just Three And A Half Months.** According to a post on the FreedomWorks website, “All told, in just three and a half months, CSE: Attended over 50 events, Distributed 4,000 Supreme Court yard signs, Printed 435,000 pieces of Supreme Court education literature and voter guides, Traveled over 17,000 miles, Reached over 5,000 people face-to-face with our message, and Distributed over 1,000 tort reform novelty items. Additionally, we visited key newspapers and radio shows to get our message out on these races and garnered media coverage from these efforts.” [FreedomWorks.org, [11/8/00](#)]
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As An Ohio Representative, Ted Strickland Was Targeted By CSE For His Support For “President Clinton's Energy Tax.”

As An Ohio Representative, Ted Strickland Was Targeted By CSE For His Support For “President Clinton's Energy Tax.” According to the Columbus Dispatch, “Rep. Ted Strickland knows that his vote Thursday for President Clinton's energy tax could end his congressional career after one term, but he's decided not to worry about it. [...] Ironically, a letter from an opponent of the tax bill helped Strickland decide to support it. ‘If there's anything that sealed my sense that I was right . . . I received a fax in my office from a group called Concerned Citizens for a Sound Economy, and the fax told me they were running spots in my district urging me to oppose this package,’ Strickland said. ‘They said they had determined that nearly 800 jobs in my district would be lost if this package passed, and that they had 600 members in my district who would be highly upset if I voted for this.’ All the fax did was make him mad.” [Columbus Dispatch, 5/30/93]

A Fax From CSE Told Strickland They Were Running Spots Urging Him To Oppose The Package. According to the Columbus Dispatch, “Rep. Ted Strickland knows that his vote Thursday for President Clinton's energy tax could end his congressional career after one term, but he's decided not to worry about it. [...] Ironically, a letter from an opponent of the tax bill helped Strickland decide to support it. ‘If there's anything that sealed my sense that I was right . . . I received a fax in my office from a group called Concerned Citizens for a Sound Economy, and the fax told me they were running spots in my district urging me to oppose this package,’ Strickland said. ‘They said they had determined that nearly 800 jobs in my district would be lost if this package passed, and that they had 600 members in my district who would be highly upset if I voted for this.’ All the fax did was make him mad. ‘This is what's wrong with this government. It was an attempt to intimidate, and it just hardened my resolve that what has been wrong with our government for a long time is that too many people make decisions on the basis of fear and intimidation,’ Strickland said.” [Columbus Dispatch, 5/30/93]

- **The Fax Told Strickland That CSE Had Determined That If The Energy Legislation Passed “Nearly 800 Jobs” In His District Would Be Lost And “They Had 600 Members” In His District “Who Would Be Highly Upset.”**

According to the Columbus Dispatch, “Rep. Ted Strickland knows that his vote Thursday for President Clinton's energy tax could end his congressional career after one term, but he's decided not to worry about it. [...] Ironically, a letter from an opponent of the tax bill helped Strickland decide to support it. ‘If there's anything that sealed my sense that I was right . . . I received a fax in my office from a group called Concerned Citizens for a Sound Economy, and the fax told me they were running spots in my district urging me to oppose this package,’ Strickland said. ‘They said they had determined that nearly 800 jobs in my district would be lost if this package passed, and that they had 600 members in my district who would be highly upset if I voted for this.’ All the fax did was make him mad.” [Columbus Dispatch, 5/30/93]

- **Strickland On The Fax From Citizens For A Sound Economy: “It Was An Attempt To Intimidate, And It Just Hardened My Resolve.”** According to the Columbus Dispatch, “‘If there's anything that sealed my sense that I was right . . . I received a fax in my office from a group called Concerned Citizens for a Sound Economy, and the fax told me they were running spots in my district urging me to oppose this package,’ Strickland said. ‘They said they had determined that nearly 800 jobs in my district would be lost if this package passed, and that they had 600 members in my district who would be highly upset if I voted for this.’ All the fax did was make him mad. ‘This is what's wrong with this government. It was an attempt to intimidate, and it just hardened my resolve that what has been wrong with our government for a long time is that too many people make decisions on the basis of fear and intimidation,’ Strickland said.” [Columbus Dispatch, 5/30/93]

CSE Tracked Ohio Legislators Based On Their Willingness To Oppose “Any And All Purposed Tax Increases That Come Before The General Assembly”

CSE Tracked Ohio Legislature Members Based On Their Willingness To Oppose “Any And All Purposed Tax Increases That Come Before The General Assembly.” According to a post on the Freedomworks website, “CSE’s Volunteer Chapter Leader in Ohio, Joe Curran, has been busy both personally contacting, and working with other concerned taxpayers to contact, members of the Ohio Legislature to stop the Ohio tax increase. TAKE ACTION NOW-- Contact your Ohio Legislators! Based on his findings, Joe has been able to classify these legislators in one of the following 3 categories: 1. FIRMLY AGAINST any tax increase 2. LEANING AGAINST any tax increase 3. LEANING FOR OR UNKNOWN [...] Joe will be working throughout the year to organize pressure on state legislators and Governor Taft to beat back any and all purposed tax increases that come before the General Assembly.” [Freedomworks.org, [6/1/03](#)]

CSE’s Members Rallied Against “Tax-And-Spenders” After The Ohio Senate Voted In Favor Of A Senate Bill To Raise “The State Sales Tax By One Cent For ‘Two Years’” And Increase “The Minimum Tax On Corporations.”

According to a post on the FreedomWorks website, “The tax-and-spenders are on the march in Ohio, and Citizens for a Sound Economy (CSE) Members are rallying to stop the latest effort to take even more money from overtaxed Ohio families. Last week, the Ohio State Senate Finance Committee approved tax increase legislation by a 12-1 vote, followed by a full Senate vote of 24-9 in favor. The bill proposes raising the state sales tax by one cent for ‘two years’ and increasing the minimum tax on corporations with over 300 employees from \$50 to \$1000.” [Freedomworks.org, [6/9/03](#)]

- **CSE President Paul Beckner: “Sales Taxes Are Regressive, Hitting Lower Income Ohioans Hardest” And “The Sales Tax Hike Will Raise The Price Of Goods Statewide, Hurts Job Creation And Stifles Economic Growth.”** According to a post on the Freedomworks website, “Paul Beckner, President of Citizens for a Sound Economy, commented: ‘The Ohio chapter of CSE (OH CSE) is mobilizing grassroots opposition to this measure because it will hurt Ohio families. The sales tax hike will raise the price of goods statewide, hurts job creation and stifles economic growth. The legislature needs to look at spending cuts, not tax increases. We need more officials like Senator Jay Hottinger of Newark, the only Senator to oppose the measure in the Finance Committee, who are willing to stand up and say ‘no’ to new taxes. Many officials are justifying the sales tax increase by claiming that it will not be permanent. But governments are hooked on spending and rarely give up new sources of revenue. Describing this tax increase as ‘temporary’ is just an excuse to raise taxes. What’s more, sales taxes are regressive, hitting lower income Ohioans hardest. This bill is the wrong answer from a group of elected officials unwilling to make tough budget decisions.’” [Freedomworks.org, [6/9/03](#)]

CSE Took Credit For Defeating “A Stealth Plan” To Create A Wildlife Refuge In Ohio

CSE Took Credit For Defeating “A Stealth Plan To Create A Wildlife Refuge In The Darby River Watershed Of Ohio.” According to a post on the Freedomworks website, “U. S. Fish & Wildlife developed a stealth plan to create a wildlife refuge in the Darby River watershed of Ohio, including the removal of 2000 families from 53,000 acres of prime farmland in the process. On Labor Day weekend of 2000, 5000 property rights advocates from across the country rallied with the local

farmers in peaceful protest. Today, as a result of this activism, the Fish & Wildlife bureaucrats have closed their local office and given up on the project. [...] When people like CSE activists get involved, we win. But the no-compromise environmentalists never give up.” [Freedomworks.org, [11/8/02](#)]

One Of CSE’s Core Principles Was “Environmental Laws Must Respect The Rights Of Property Owners.”

According to a post on the Freedomworks website, “A CSE core principle: ‘Environmental laws must respect the rights of property owners.’ For years, this principle has been violated by radical environmental groups. The Sierra Club, the Wilderness Society, the Nature Conservancy and others have relentlessly filed lawsuits, misusing the Endangered Species Act to restrict property use and confiscate private property without compensation.. [sic] Such groups, following an insatiable desire to acquire more lands for non-human use, are attempting to drive rural Americans off their land and into cities as part of ‘Wildlands Project’ and ‘Sustainable Development’ agendas.” [Freedomworks.org, [11/8/02](#)]

- **CSE Helped Launch The “Sawgrass Rebellion,” Planning Rallies In Several States, Including Ohio, “To Bring National Attention To” Environment-Related Florida Property Issues.** According to a post on the Freedomworks website, “Today, in the Everglades of South Florida, homeowners and farmers are fighting to protect their property rights from the Everglades Restoration Project, a \$7.8 billion taxpayer-funded environmental boondoggle, and its implementers, the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers. The Corps is supported by environmental groups who would drive Everglades-area property owners from their land. [...] In Nashville on July 19-20, 2002, a coalition of property rights advocates, led by Henry Lamb of Sovereignty International and Jay Walley of the Paragon Foundation, and including CSE, announced the ‘Sawgrass Rebellion’, to bring national attention to the South Florida property owners’ dilemma. In late September, a caravan will leave Klamath Falls, Oregon, winding its way east and growing in numbers along the way, and arriving in Naples, Florida on October 17. Another caravan will travel from Ohio to Florida. Rallies are planned along both caravan routes.” [Freedomworks.org, [11/8/02](#)]

CSE: “Areas Like The Klamath Basin In Oregon, And The Darby Watershed In Ohio Have Had Their Economies Devastated By Environmental Regulations” Based On “Junk Science.” According to a post by Citizens for a Sound Economy member and 8.5 Square Mile Area Legal Defense Foundation president Madeleine Fortin appearing on Freedomworks.org, “Now, all over the United States, the Constitutional rights of property owners and the economies of rural communities are being destroyed in the name of ‘protecting the environment’. Based on junk science, areas like the Klamath Basin in Oregon, and the Darby Watershed in Ohio have had their economies devastated by environmental regulations that have done nothing to either protect or enhance environmental quality. Ranches have lost grazing leases. People are having their homes and farms taken away from them to provide ‘buffer zones’ for national parks.” [FreedomWorks.org, [9/16/02](#)]

CSE Ran An Ad Campaign In Ohio “To Educate State Policymakers And Our Grassroots Members On The Benefits Of Telecom Regulatory Reform”

CSE Ran An Ad Campaign In Ohio “To Educate State Policymakers And Our Grassroots Members On The Benefits Of Telecom Regulatory Reform.” According to a post on the FreedomWorks website, “The telecommunications policy debate in Ohio is at a crucial point, and CSE is working to educate state policymakers and our grassroots members on the benefits of telecom regulatory reform. Part of this campaign includes print advertising that is currently running in Columbus newspapers. The ad is partly a response to an effort by AT&T and others to expand price controls in Ohio.” [FreedomWorks.org, [4/30/04](#)]

- **CSE Chief Economist Wayne Brough: “CSE Is Leading A Nationwide Grassroots Educational Campaign That Calls For The Complete Deregulation Of America’s Telecommunications Markets.”** According to a post on the FreedomWorks website, “CSE’s Chief Economist, Wayne T. Brough, Ph.D., made the following comments: ‘It’s a fair question to wonder if the timing, publicity, and the choice of states is for business or political reasons. The fact that AT&T won’t embrace the process and at least negotiate commercial rates is a disservice to everyone trying to create fair and rational telecommunications policy. Despite AT&T’s announcement, the Bush Administration’s decision not to appeal was the right call. The courts are rejecting a failed regulatory approach, and that will be good for everyone involved. Indeed, AT&T could also benefit from the new marketplace once it starts to focus on consumers instead of regulators. CSE is leading a nationwide grassroots educational campaign that calls for the complete deregulation of America’s telecommunications markets, and we’re going to defend the Bush Administration’s deregulatory policy. AT&T needs to abandon the failed regulatory policy of the past and negotiate in the marketplace.’” [FreedomWorks.org, [6/23/04](#)]

- **Brough: “We’re Going To Defend The Bush Administration’s Deregulatory Policy.”** According to a post on the FreedomWorks website, “CSE’s Chief Economist, Wayne T. Brough, Ph.D., made the following comments: ‘It’s a fair question to wonder if the timing, publicity, and the choice of states is for business or political reasons. The fact that AT&T won’t embrace the process and at least negotiate commercial rates is a disservice to everyone trying to create fair and rational telecommunications policy. Despite AT&T’s announcement, the Bush Administration’s decision not to appeal was the right call. The courts are rejecting a failed regulatory approach, and that will be good for everyone involved. Indeed, AT&T could also benefit from the new marketplace once it starts to focus on consumers instead of regulators. CSE is leading a nationwide grassroots educational campaign that calls for the complete deregulation of America’s telecommunications markets, and we’re going to defend the Bush Administration’s deregulatory policy. AT&T needs to abandon the failed regulatory policy of the past and negotiate in the marketplace.’” [FreedomWorks.org, [6/23/04](#)]

KOCH CAMPAIGN AGENDA IN OHIO: ELECTION ACTIVITY AND SUPPORT FOR CANDIDATES

Koch Industries PAC Contributed \$71,000 To Republican House Of Representatives Candidates In Ohio In The 2014 Midterm Elections. According to the Center for Responsive Politics, Koch Industries PAC contributed \$71,000 to Republican House of Representatives candidates in Ohio In The 2014 Midterm Elections. [OpenSecrets.org, accessed [7/13/15](#)]

- **Koch Industries PAC Contributed \$10,000 To Speaker Of The House John Boehner’s Campaign In The 2014 Midterm Elections.** According to the Center for Responsive Politics, Koch Industries PAC contributed \$10,000 to Speaker of the House John Boehner’s campaign in the 2014 midterm elections. [OpenSecrets.org, accessed [7/13/15](#)]

Charles Koch Contributed \$34,000 To The Ohio Republican State Central & Executive Committee State Candidate Fund In 2010. According to Ohio’s campaign finance database, Charles Koch contributed \$34,000 to the Ohio Republican State Central & Executive Committee State Candidate Fund in 2010. [Ohio Campaign Finance Database, accessed [7/14/15](#)]

- **Koch Industries Contributed \$10,000 To The Ohio Republican State Central & Executive Committee Restricted Fund In 2010.** According to Ohio’s campaign finance database, Koch Industries contributed \$10,000 to the Ohio Republican State Central & Executive Committee Restricted Fund in 2010. [Ohio Campaign Finance Database, accessed [7/14/15](#)]

Koch Industries Contributed \$1.2 Million To Elect Republican Governors In 2010, Including \$56,000 In Ohio.

According to Bloomberg, “Koch Industries Inc. and its employees and subsidiaries spent \$1.2 million in the last election helping to elect Republican governors who are now trying to take away bargaining rights of state workers. Republicans Scott Walker of Wisconsin and John Kasich of Ohio, who won election last November with Koch support, are pushing to limit the ability of public-employee unions to negotiate for salaries and benefits. [...] Koch gave \$43,000 directly to Walker, his single largest corporate source; \$11,000 to the Wisconsin Republican party; \$22,000 to Kasich; and \$34,000 to the Ohio Republicans.” [Bloomberg, [2/23/11](#)]

David Koch Contributed \$12,155 To The “Kasich Taylor For Ohio” Campaign in 2014. According to Ohio’s campaign finance database, David Koch contributed \$12,155 to the “Kasich Taylor for Ohio” campaign in April 2014. [Ohio Campaign Finance Database, accessed [7/14/15](#)]

Gov. John Kasich

THE KOCHS SUPPORTED KASICH FOR GOVERNOR....

David Koch “Was A Maximum \$12,155 Donor” To Ohio Gov. John Kasich’s Re-Election Campaign In 2014.

According to the Columbus Dispatch, “Conservative energy conglomerate Koch Industries is underwriting the D.C. summit at which Kasich will appear. David Koch, one of the ‘Koch brothers’ prominent in political circles for the money they spend backing conservative causes and candidates, was a maximum \$12,155 donor to Kasich’s re-election campaign last year.” [Columbus Dispatch, [4/8/15](#)]

Kasich Was The Top-Billed Speaker At A Koch-Funded Atlantic Event. According to an opinion by Toledo Blade editor David Kushma in the Toledo Blade, “The governor continues to make the rounds. Last week, the Atlantic magazine held its annual economic conference in Washington (Koch Industries was a ‘presenting underwriter’). Speakers included the White House’s budget director, chief economic adviser, and trade representative, two Cabinet secretaries, and several leaders of Congress. But top billing went to Mr. Kasich, who discussed ‘building Ohio’s future.’” [David Kushma – Toledo Blade, [4/26/15](#)]

Gov. John Kasich Said He Was Concerned About A Few Rich People Getting To “Pick Who’s Going To Be President” But Said “He Was Not Referring To The Koch Brothers.” According to the New Hampshire Union-Leader, “Ohio Gov. John Kasich said he is concerned about a political landscape in which a handful of rich people ‘get to pick who’s going to be president.’ [...]Kasich told the press following his remarks that he was not referring to the Koch Brothers, or to any specific billionaire in the country.” [New Hampshire Union-Leader, [5/6/15](#)]

AFL-CIO: “Political Observers Said” Gov. John Kasich’s Stripping Of Collective Bargaining Rights From Childcare And Homecare Workers Was Meant “To Reinforce His Anti-Union, Extremist Credentials” For The Kochs. According to a post from the AFL-CIO, “Ohio Gov. John Kasich (R), whose attempt to strip tens of thousands of public employees of their bargaining rights in 2011 failed, lashed out last week at the state’s 10,000 child care and home care workers when he issued an executive order stripping them of their collective bargaining rights. [...]In 2011, Kasich championed legislation (S.B. 5) that would have eliminated collective bargaining rights for public employees. But voters overwhelmingly overturned the law that fall. Political observers said Kasich’s move was designed to reinforce his anti-union, extremist credentials in the Republican presidential race in which the Koch brothers have promised to invest nearly \$1 billion.” [AFL-CIO, [5/26/15](#)]

AFP-Ohio Director Eli Miller On Gov. John Kasich’s State Of The State Address: “We Hope The Governor And The Legislature Are Able To Move Forward” With A Reduction In The State Income Tax. According to the Galion Inquirer, “Americans for Prosperity (AFP) Ohio is responding to tonight’s State of the State address from Governor John Kasich. ‘We applaud and appreciate Governor Kasich’s focus on ways to promote economic growth and entrepreneurship,’ said Eli Miller, State Director of Americans for Prosperity Ohio. ‘Another reduction in the income tax rate will help many Ohio business owners and residents. We hope the Governor and the legislature are able to move forward with that reduction for Ohioans.’” [Galion Inquirer, [2/24/15](#)]

Koch President Of Government And Public Affairs Philip Ellender: Koch Industries “Is Pleased To See Elected Officials Take Up Initiatives” Like Legislation To Eliminate Collective Bargaining. According to Bloomberg, “Koch Industries Inc. and its employees and subsidiaries spent \$1.2 million in the last election helping to elect Republican governors who are now trying to take away bargaining rights of state workers. Republicans Scott Walker of Wisconsin and John Kasich of Ohio, who won election last November with Koch support, are pushing to limit the ability of public-employee unions to negotiate for salaries and benefits. [...] As for Koch Industries, the company ‘never had discussions with either of these elected officials related to the legislation now under consideration,’ said Philip Ellender, president of government and public affairs for Koch Cos. Public Sector LLC, which says it provides legal, government and public affairs services for Koch Industries. ‘Koch Industries is pleased to see elected officials take up initiatives that might avert looming fiscal crises at both the state and national level with the aim of spurring job creation and reducing public debt,’ Ellender said.” [Bloomberg, [2/23/11](#)]

...BUT WERE UNHAPPY WHEN HE VEERED SLIGHTLY FROM THE KOCH AGENDA

AFP President Tim Phillips: “We Were Deeply Disappointed At Gov. Kasich’s Actions On The Medicaid Expansion Battle In Ohio.” According to Newsmax, “‘We were deeply disappointed at Gov. Kasich’s actions on the Medicaid expansion battle in Ohio,’ said Tim Phillips, president of the Koch-supported Americans for Prosperity.” [Newsmax.com, [6/20/15](#)]

- **Phillips: “Obamacare Is A Core Issue At This Point For So Many Americans Who Will Most Likely Be Participating In Primaries And Caucuses.”** According to Newsmax, “‘We were deeply disappointed at Gov. Kasich’s actions on the Medicaid expansion battle in Ohio,’ said Tim Phillips, president of the Koch-supported Americans for Prosperity. ‘Obamacare is a core issue at this point for so many Americans who will most likely be participating in primaries and caucuses.’” [Newsmax.com, [6/20/15](#)]

- **Phillips: “The Question Of Expanding Medicaid Is Arguably The Most Important State-Level Aspect Of Obamacare That’s In Play.”** According to Newsmax, “‘We were deeply disappointed at Gov. Kasich’s actions on the Medicaid expansion battle in Ohio,’ said Tim Phillips, president of the Koch-supported Americans for Prosperity. ‘Obamacare is a core issue at this point for so many Americans who will most likely be participating in primaries and caucuses. The question of expanding Medicaid is arguably the most important state-level aspect of Obamacare that’s in play.’” [Newsmax.com, [6/20/15](#)]
- **Phillips: “For Gov. Kasich And Others Who Have Supported Expanding This Program, It’s Going To Be A Difficult Explanation.”** According to Politico, “‘We were deeply disappointed at Gov. Kasich’s actions on the Medicaid expansion battle in Ohio,’ said Tim Phillips, president of Americans for Prosperity, a conservative think tank supported by the Koch Brothers. [...] ‘It’s not compassionate to take a failing program and expand it by dumping millions of Americans in it,’ Phillips said. ‘For Gov. Kasich and others who have supported expanding this program, it’s going to be a difficult explanation.’” [Politico.com, [6/20/15](#)]

Gov. Kasich Was “Absent From The Lineup Of Speakers Scheduled For A Koch Brothers Gathering” Taking Place In August 2014 In Columbus, Ohio. According to The Columbus Dispatch, “Ohio Gov. John Kasich is conspicuously *[sic]* absent from the lineup of speakers scheduled for a Koch Brothers gathering in Columbus next month. Former Florida Gov. Jeb Bush, former Texas Gov. Rick Perry and Texas Sen. Ted Cruz also are slated to attend the Defending the American Dream Summit on Aug. 21 and 22 at the Greater Columbus Convention Center. The gathering is sponsored by the organization bankrolled by Charles and David Koch, business owners ranked among the richest people in the world. But spokesman for both Kasich and AFP won’t say whether Kasich was never invited or if he is just refusing to attend the gathering, which also will feature U.S. Sen. Rob Portman of Ohio and Rep. Jim Jordan of Urbana.” [Columbus Dispatch, [7/14/15](#)]

- **Kasich Has “Not Been Invited Back To A Koch Seminar” Since He Had A Confrontation With A Donor At A Conference In 2014.** According to Politico, “Kasich’s temper has made it harder to endear himself to the GOP’s wealthy benefactors. Last year, he traveled to Southern California to appear on a panel at a conference sponsored by the Republican mega-donors Charles and David Koch. At one point, according to accounts provided by two sources present, Randy Kendrick, a major contributor and the wife of Ken Kendrick, the owner of the Arizona Diamondbacks, rose to say she disagreed with Kasich’s decision to expand Medicaid coverage, and questioned why he’d expressed the view it was what God wanted. The governor’s response was fiery. ‘I don’t know about you, lady,’ he said as he pointed at Kendrick, his voice rising. ‘But when I get to the pearly gates, I’m going to have an answer for what I’ve done for the poor.’ The exchange left many stunned. About 20 audience members walked out of the room, and two governors also on the panel, Nikki Haley of South Carolina and Bobby Jindal of Louisiana, told Kasich they disagreed with him. The Ohio governor has not been invited back to a Koch seminar — opportunities for presidential aspirants to mingle with the party’s rich and powerful — in the months since.” [Politico, [6/9/15](#)]

Sen. Rob Portman

THE KOCHS AND KOCH INDUSTRIES HAVE DONATED TO PORTMAN

2002-2010: Portman Received A Total Of \$11,600 From Members Of The Koch Family. According to Conservative Transparency, between 2002 and 2010 Portman received a total of \$11,600 via two committees. [Conservative Transparency, Rob Portman, accessed [7/23/15](#)]

Koch Industries Gave Sen. Portman \$25,600 In The 2014 Election Cycle. According to the Center for Responsive Politics, Rob Portman received \$25,600 from Koch Industries. [OpenSecrets, accessed [7/28/15](#)]

Koch Industries Gave Sen. Portman \$22,000 In The 2012 Election Cycle. According to the Center for Responsive Politics, Rob Portman received \$22,000 from Koch Industries. [OpenSecrets, accessed [7/28/15](#)]

Koch Industries Gave \$17,200 To Portman For His 2011 Race. According to Cleveland.com, “The oil and gas industry closely follows the lobbying industry in financial support for [Rob] Portman, giving him \$220,458. Donors include top executives of Texas-based Marathon Oil (\$21,800) and Kansas-based Koch Industries (\$17,200), a privately held oil and

manufacturing concern. Brothers Charles and David Koch have bankrolled opposition campaigns against President Barack Obama's agenda on the environment, healthcare and the economy, according to the New Yorker. Koch money for Portman came from each of the brothers, David's wife, Julia, and their company PAC.” [Cleveland.com, [7/13/10](#)]

- **Both David And Charles, David’s Wife Julia And Their Company PAC Contributed To Portman.** According to Cleveland.com, “Brothers Charles and David Koch have bankrolled opposition campaigns against President Barack Obama’s agenda on the environment, healthcare and the economy, according to the New Yorker. Koch money for Portman came from each of the brothers, David’s wife, Julia, and their company PAC” [Cleveland.com, [7/13/10](#)]

The Kochs Have Already Donated To Portman’s “Vulnerable” 2016 Campaign

Senator Rob Portman Received \$6,000 From Koch Industries PAC In 2015. According to Environment and Energy Daily, “With more than a year to go before Ohio voters head to the polls, coal and fossil fuel interests are putting thousands of dollars behind Sen. Rob Portman, who may be in for a tough re-election fight. They are supporting the Republican incumbent, even as the Democratic field has yet to solidify. [...] Portman has expressed support for increased natural gas production through hydraulic fracturing. It’s therefore no surprise that America’s Natural Gas Alliance gifted his campaign \$1,000. And the political action committee for Koch Industries Inc., tied to billionaire industrialists Charles and David Koch, gave Portman \$6,000.” [Environment and Energy Daily, 5/5/15]

National Journal: Portman Is “One Of The More Vulnerable Republican Senators For Reelection – And Party Leaders Are Growing Increasingly Nervous About His Prospects.” According to the National Journal, “In a sign that politics play much differently in Ohio than Washington, Portman is one of the more vulnerable Republican senators for reelection—and party leaders are growing increasingly nervous about his prospects. The latest Quinnipiac survey shows him trailing his likely Democratic opponent, former Gov. Ted Strickland, by six points—the second straight poll to show him behind. His name identification back home is surprisingly low, at just 64 percent, according to the poll.” [National Journal, [6/30/15](#)]

- **Portman Is “Trailing His Likely Democratic Opponent, Former Gov. Ted Strickland,” In The “Second Straight Poll.”** According to the National Journal, “In a sign that politics play much differently in Ohio than Washington, Portman is one of the more vulnerable Republican senators for reelection—and party leaders are growing increasingly nervous about his prospects. The latest Quinnipiac survey shows him trailing his likely Democratic opponent, former Gov. Ted Strickland, by six points—the second straight poll to show him behind. His name identification back home is surprisingly low, at just 64 percent, according to the poll.” [National Journal, [6/30/15](#)]

FREEDOM PARTNERS MEGA-DONOR ROBERT MERCER FUNDED THE PORTMAN VICTORY COMMITTEE

Robert Mercer Was One Of The Two People Who Have Donated To Rob Portman’s Portman Victory Committee. According to Bloomberg, “Hedge fund operator Robert Mercer almost never talks about himself, and neither do the people who know him. Yet Mercer's money is sure making a lot of noise on the campaign trail. [...] Senator Rob Portman, the National Republican Senatorial Committee's finance chair and a potential 2016 Republican presidential candidate simply said, ‘I don't have any insights’ about the man who is one of two people who've donated to the Portman Victory Committee. The other contributor is Mercer's wife of more than 40 years, Diana. ‘The conversation I had with him was about the direction of the country. His focus with me was on the economic issues and the fiscal issues,’ Portman said.” [Bloomberg, [10/22/14](#)]

- **“The Other Contributor Is Mercer's Wife Of More Than 40 Years, Diana.”** According to Bloomberg, “Senator Rob Portman, the National Republican Senatorial Committee's finance chair and a potential 2016 Republican presidential candidate simply said, ‘I don't have any insights’ about the man who is one of two people who've donated to the Portman Victory Committee. The other contributor is Mercer's wife of more than 40 years, Diana. ‘The conversation I had with him was about the direction of the country. His focus with me was on the economic issues and the fiscal issues,’ Portman said.” [Bloomberg, [10/22/14](#)]

Bloomberg: Mercer Gave \$2.5 Million To “The Koch Brothers' Organization,” Freedom Partners Action Fund, More Than “The Kansas Founders, David And Charles, Who Each Chipped In Just \$2 Million.” According to Bloomberg, “Hedge fund operator Robert Mercer almost never talks about himself, and neither do the people who know him.

Yet Mercer's money is sure making a lot of noise on the campaign trail. The third most generous Republican donor this cycle, Mercer has cut checks for a total of \$37 million in the past six years, supporting pro-life candidates, those who deny man-made global warming, as well as helping fund the effort to block construction of a mosque near the site of the September 11 attacks in New York. In fact, this year he gave more to the Koch brothers' organization, \$2.5 million, than the Kansas founders, David and Charles, who each chipped in just \$2 million to Freedom Partners Action Fund.” [Bloomberg, [10/22/14](#)]

PORTMAN HAS SUPPORTED THE KOCH AGENDA ON OUTSOURCING

Portman Voted Against A Bill That Provided Tax Incentives For Companies To Bring Jobs Back From Outside the U.S. And Eliminated Tax Incentives To Companies That Move Jobs Offshore. In July 2012, Portman voted against a bill that, according to CNN, “Would give tax breaks for companies that ‘insource’ jobs to the U.S. from overseas while eliminating tax deductions for companies that move jobs abroad.” The bill was defeated in a cloture vote 56-42. [Senate Vote 181, [7/19/2012](#); CNN, [7/19/2012](#)]

- **The Bill Would Give Companies Moving Jobs To The US A Credit Equal To 20% Of The Cost Of Bringing Jobs To The U.S.** According to a Press Release from Sen. Debbie Stabenow, “Companies bringing jobs home would still be able to claim the current moving expense deduction when bringing jobs home, and would also receive a tax credit equal to 20% of the cost associated with bringing jobs and business activity back to the United States.” [Office of Senator Debbie Stabenow, [6/19/2012](#)]
- **Bill Would Have Prevented Businesses From Deducting The Cost Of Moving Personnel, Business Operations Overseas From Their Taxes.** According to a press release from Sen. Debbie Stabenow, “Right now, the cost of moving personnel and company operations to a new location is defined as a business expense that qualifies for a tax deduction. Senator Stabenow’s legislation would no longer allow this deduction for companies that move jobs and business activity outside of the U.S.” [Office of Senator Debbie Stabenow, [6/19/2012](#)]
- **U.S. Chamber Of Commerce Opposed Bill, Said It “Would Hamper American Worldwide Companies’ Competitiveness.”** According to CNN, “In a letter to senators this week, the Chamber of Commerce called the bill ‘misguided’ and said it ‘would hamper American worldwide companies’ competitiveness, increase complexity in the Internal Revenue Code, and threaten economic growth.’ The Chamber said it would count how senators voted on this motion in their annual ‘How they [sic] Voted’ scorecard.” [CNN, [7/19/2012](#)]

Portman Effectively Voted Against Legislation Barring Companies From Deducting The Costs Of Moving Jobs Out Of The U.S. From Their Taxes, And Providing A Tax Credit For Moving Jobs Into The U.S. In July 2014, Portman effectively voted against a bill that, according to Congressional Quarterly, “Would give businesses a tax credit for up to 20 percent of the expenses incurred to bring work done in foreign countries back into the United States, if the business also increases its number of full-time employees. It also would prohibit tax deductions for expenses incurred when moving jobs outside the U.S.” The vote was on a motion to end debate on the bill, which required 60 votes to succeed. The Senate rejected the motion by a vote of 54 to 42. [Senate Vote 249, [7/30/14](#); Congressional Quarterly, [7/30/14](#)]

Koch Has Outsourced While Koch Groups Pushed Policies Making It Easier For Companies To Move Operations Overseas

AFP: U.S. Firms Use Tax Inversions To “Take Advantage Of Lower Foreign Tax Rates (In The Form Of Mergers Or Acquisitions) As Opposed To The Punitive U.S. Rate On Overseas Income.” According to a post on Americans for Prosperity’s website, “These deals are often referred to as ‘tax inversions,’ a process in which U.S. firms take advantage of lower foreign tax rates (in the form of mergers or acquisitions) as opposed to the punitive U.S. rate on overseas income. There have been a number of such mergers in recent years, with the latest being a \$42.9 billion deal between U.S. based medical device manufacture Medtronic and Ireland-based Covidien. Rather than being forced to pay the U.S. punishing tax rate of more than 35 percent, Medtronic will pay the Irish rate of 12.5 percent – saving millions of dollars in tax liabilities. Not surprisingly, the frequency of these tax inversion deals has been rapidly increasing, with 4 of the largest 6 mergers this year offering potential tax benefits according to the Wall Street Journal.” [AmericansforProsperity.org/article, [7/17/14](#)]

Koch Industries-Owned Companies Eliminated “About 3,000 U.S. Jobs...Over The Past Decade” Because Of “Offshoring Or Competition From Imports.” According to Bloomberg, “About 3,000 U.S. jobs lost at Koch Industries-

owned companies over the past decade can be attributed to offshoring or competition from imports. That's according to a Bloomberg News tally based on an analysis of Department of Labor documents provided by American Bridge 21st Century, a group allied with Democrats. It includes 342 at an Invista plant in Waynesboro, Virginia, and about 258 at Georgia-Pacific facilities in Green Bay, Wisconsin, and Halsey, Oregon." [Bloomberg, [9/2/14](#)]

Rep. Jim Jordan

KOCH INDUSTRIES CONTRIBUTED TO JORDAN'S 2014 AND 2012 CAMPAIGNS

Koch Industries Contributed \$10,000 To Rep. Jim Jordan's Campaign In The 2014 Midterm Elections. According to the Center for Responsive Politics, Koch Industries contributed \$10,000 to Rep. Jim Jordan's campaign in the 2014 midterm elections. [OpenSecrets.org, accessed [8/4/15](#)]

- **Koch Industries Contributed \$10,000 To Rep. Jim Jordan's Campaign In The 2012 Election Cycle.** According to the Center for Responsive Politics, Koch Industries contributed \$10,000 to Rep. Jim Jordan's campaign in the 2012 election cycle. [OpenSecrets.org, accessed [8/4/15](#)]

JORDAN WAS INVITED TO KOCH DONOR SUMMITS

Rep. Jim Jordan Was One Of Three Congressmen Who Attended The 2015 Koch Donor Network Conference In California. According to the Washington Post, "Dana Point, Calif. - Seven sitting governors, six incumbent senators and two House members — all Republicans — have flown here this weekend for the Koch donor network conference. There are 450 donors at a seaside resort here, and the network of conservative advocacy groups they fund aims to spend \$889 million in advance of the next White House election. [...] The congressmen — Ohio's Jim Jordan, who chairs the House Freedom Caucus Wisconsin's Sean Duffy Michigan's Justin Amash." [Washington Post, [8/1/15](#)]

Jordan Was Also "Invited To Participate" In The 2014 Koch Network Summit In California. According to The Washington Post, "The political network backed by the Koch brothers, already spending tens of millions of dollars this year to boost Republicans' chances of retaking the Senate, is expanding its national playbook as part of a long-term strategy designed to strengthen conservatives heading into the 2016 presidential campaign. [...] The heightened interest was evident last weekend, when a large number of new participants attended a donor retreat at a luxury resort in Dana Point, Calif. The four-day seminar, titled 'American Courage: Our Commitment to a Free Society,' was one of two annual summits where donors make pledges to the network. This cycle, strategists aim to raise at least \$290 million, said people familiar with the plans. The Daily Beast first reported the 2014 fundraising plan. The conclave functioned as a high-end summit for top conservative donors and Republican power players. Participants attended briefings on voter turnout, the Senate landscape and the rival infrastructure on the left, according to a draft agenda obtained by The Nation. Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell (Ky.), Sen. Marco Rubio (Fla.), and Reps. Tom Cotton of (Ark.) and Jim Jordan (Ohio) were among the Republican lawmakers invited to participate." [Washington Post, [6/18/14](#)]

JORDAN SPOKE AT AN AMERICANS FOR PROSPERITY RALLY

Jordan Spoke At An Americans For Prosperity Rally At The U.S. Capitol Featuring Rep. Michele Bachmann. According to Politico, "With the threat of a federal government shutdown looming over Washington, Michele Bachmann joined hundreds gathered at an Americans for Prosperity rally outside the Capitol Wednesday with a message for lawmakers: bring it on. [...] Other conservative members such as Republican Study Committee Chairman Jim Jordan (R-Ohio), Bob Goodlatte (R-Va.), Scott Garrett (R-N.J.), and Renee Ellmers (R-N.C.) drew applause from the crowd, most of who carried signs calling for more cuts, a shutdown, or defunding the federal health care law." [Politico.com, [4/6/11](#)]

Jordan Appeared With AFP President Tim Phillips At A Congressional Press Conference In Opposition To A Debt Ceiling Increase. According to a transcript of a news conference held by Republican members of congress, Rep. Jim Jordan and AFP president Tim Phillips are both listed as witnesses at a "news conference to oppose any debt ceiling increase unless a 'cut, cap and balance' plan is passed." [Republican Members of Congress News Conference transcript via CQ Transcripts, [6/22/11](#)]

AFP Election Activity In Ohio

AFP LAUNCHED A \$1.4 MILLION AD CAMPAIGN BASHING DEMOCRATIC SENATE CANDIDATE TED STRICKLAND TO START OFF 2016 SEASON

AFP Was Set To Begin Airing A \$1.4 Million TV Ad Campaign “Bashing Democratic Senate Candidate Ted Strickland.” According to the National Journal, “So it begins: This week in Ohio, Americans for Prosperity will begin airing TV ads bashing Democratic Senate candidate Ted Strickland. The conservative nonprofit will put \$1.4 million into this effort, but the big question is what will come next, two years after AFP spent tens of millions of dollars in an unprecedented early TV ad campaign targeting Democratic senators.” [National Journal, [8/18/15](#)]

“If AFP's Ohio Ad Is The Start Of Another Major Multistate Effort, The Group Would Potentially Set A Grueling Pace” For 2016 Democratic Senate Candidates. According to National Journal, “If AFP's Ohio ad is the start of another major multistate effort, the group would potentially set a grueling pace for Senate Democrats' raft of nonincumbent 2016 candidates, many of whom are just starting to raise money and introduce themselves to voters.” [National Journal, [8/18/15](#)]

The Ohio Ad Criticized Strickland For “Jobs Lost” During His Time As Governor. According to National Journal, “The new ad in Ohio, which will begin airing Thursday, criticizes likely Democratic Senate nominee Ted Strickland for jobs lost during Strickland's time as governor. The 30-second spot features a man who describes losing his job at DHL, a logistics company that shuttered its Wilmington, Ohio, hub in 2008, while Strickland was in office.” [National Journal, [8/18/15](#)]

AFP's Ad Used A Department Of Labor Statistic To Claim That 400,000 Ohioans Lost Jobs During Strickland's Term. According to the Associated Press, “The ad says Bruce is a former employee of DHL, a delivery company that closed operations in Ohio. He's one of 400,000 Ohioans who lost jobs during Strickland's term, the ad says, citing a Labor Department statistic. That same number was in heavy rotation in ads during Strickland's 2010 re-election bid, which he lost to Republican Gov. John Kasich, now a presidential candidate. At the time, the group PolitiFact rated the assertion ‘half true,’ saying ‘the claim breaks down when Republicans suggest that the governor — or any one official — is responsible for the job losses.’ Ohio had been shedding jobs, mostly in manufacturing, since January 2000, the fact-checking group noted.” [Associated Press, [8/18/15](#)]

- **The Claim “Was In Heavy Rotation In Ads During Strickland's 2010 Re-Election Bid,” And Rated “Half True” By PolitiFact.** According to the Associated Press, “The ad says Bruce is a former employee of DHL, a delivery company that closed operations in Ohio. He's one of 400,000 Ohioans who lost jobs during Strickland's term, the ad says, citing a Labor Department statistic. That same number was in heavy rotation in ads during Strickland's 2010 re-election bid, which he lost to Republican Gov. John Kasich, now a presidential candidate. At the time, the group PolitiFact rated the assertion ‘half true,’ saying ‘the claim breaks down when Republicans suggest that the governor — or any one official — is responsible for the job losses.’ Ohio had been shedding jobs, mostly in manufacturing, since January 2000, the fact-checking group noted.” [Associated Press, [8/18/15](#)]

PolitiFact: “The Claim Breaks Down When Republicans Suggest That The Governor — Or Any One Official — Is Responsible For The Job Losses.” According to the Associated Press, “The ad says Bruce is a former employee of DHL, a delivery company that closed operations in Ohio. He's one of 400,000 Ohioans who lost jobs during Strickland's term, the ad says, citing a Labor Department statistic. That same number was in heavy rotation in ads during Strickland's 2010 re-election bid, which he lost to Republican Gov. John Kasich, now a presidential candidate. At the time, the group PolitiFact rated the assertion ‘half true,’ saying ‘the claim breaks down when Republicans suggest that the governor — or any one official — is responsible for the job losses.’ Ohio had been shedding jobs, mostly in manufacturing, since January 2000, the fact-checking group noted.” [Associated Press, [8/18/15](#)]

Criticism Of Strickland's Record On Jobs “Rarely Addresses The National Recession That Contributed Or The Fact That Ohio's Unemployment Rate Was Improving In Strickland's Final Months.” According to the Cleveland Plain Dealer, “More broadly, Strickland has long faced criticism for hundreds of thousands of Ohio jobs lost during his term as governor. But that criticism rarely addresses the national recession that contributed or the fact that Ohio's unemployment rate was improving in Strickland's final months, before he lost his 2010 re-election bid to John Kasich.” [Cleveland Plain Dealer, [8/18/15](#)]

The Anti-Strickland Ad Was “A Rare Overtly Political Message,” Ending With Text Stating “Vote Against Ted Strickland.” According to the Associated Press, “The ad concludes with text on the screen saying: ‘Vote against Ted Strickland. He's failed Ohio's families.’ Republican Sen. Rob Portman is up for re-election next year. The anti-Strickland spot is a rare overtly political message from a group that typically refrains from express advocacy even as it encourages voters to back Republicans. Not since 2012 when it asked voters to reject President Barack Obama has Americans for Prosperity made this kind of ballot-box appeal.” [Associated Press, [8/18/15](#)]

- **“As A Nonprofit Advocacy Group,” AFP “Is Limited In How Much Purely Political Work It Can Do.”** According to the Associated Press, “The anti-Strickland spot is a rare overtly political message from a group that typically refrains from express advocacy even as it encourages voters to back Republicans. Not since 2012 when it asked voters to reject President Barack Obama has Americans for Prosperity made this kind of ballot-box appeal. That's because as a nonprofit advocacy group, it is limited in how much purely political work it can do. In exchange, it can keep its donors private. The difference in messaging can be slight — and lost on viewers.” [Associated Press, [8/18/15](#)]

AFP President Tim Phillips: The Anti-Strickland Ad Was Meant To “Make Sure Ohio Citizens Remember Just How Badly People Were Hurt By His Policies.” According to the Associated Press, “Tim Phillips, president of Americans for Prosperity, said the anti-Strickland ad, which will be on air throughout August, is meant to ‘make sure Ohio citizens remember just how badly people were hurt by his policies.’” [Associated Press, [8/18/15](#)]

AFP MADE ITS “INFLUENCE FELT,” AND SPENT AT LEAST \$4 MILLION ON ANTI-ACA EFFORTS IN OHIO AHEAD OF THE 2014 ELECTIONS

AFP Was “Making Its Influence Felt In Ohio” Ahead Of The 2014 Election. According to the Marion Star, “The final two months of campaigning in Ohio will determine if Republicans continue their four-year control of statewide offices topped by governor, and of both chambers of the state Legislature. Here are five political groups that are seeking to wield their influence: [...] Americans for Prosperity, among the top outside spending groups in the nation, is making its influence felt in Ohio from the top of the statewide ticket down to the local level. Backed by the billionaire brothers David and Charles Koch, the group promotes limited government, lower taxes and the power of the free market. Some 108,000 of its more than 2.3 million members nationwide are in Ohio. It's actively opposed local tax increases in central Ohio's Franklin County and to support the Columbus Zoo & Aquarium, and this fall will oppose a proposed tax increase in Upper Arlington, a Columbus suburb.” [Marion Star, 9/1/14]

Americans For Prosperity Spent \$1 Million On An Anti-ACA Campaign, Beginning With A July 2013 Ad Airing In Ohio And Virginia Which Made “Dubious Claims About The Law.” According to CBS News, “Americans for Prosperity, the conservative political advocacy group backed by the billionaire Koch brothers, is airing a new television ad with some dubious claims about the law. In the ad, a mother says, ‘I have some questions about Obamacare: If we can't pick our own doctor, How do I know my family is going to get the care they need? And what am I getting in exchange for higher premiums and a smaller paycheck?’ [...] Americans for Prosperity is spending \$1 million on its new campaign against Obamacare, which starts with this ad airing in Ohio and Virginia, as well as an online campaign.” [CBS News, [7/8/13](#)]

- **PolitiFact: “The AFP Ad Cherry Picks The Facts.”** According to PolitiFact, “The conservative organization that spent more than \$33 million in the last election to defeat President Barack Obama and other Democrats has turned its sights to undermining support for the Affordable Care Act, otherwise known as Obamacare. The group, Americans for Prosperity, launched a television ad in Ohio. [...] While most states have yet to announce their final rates, every expert we spoke to agreed that some people will pay more. The message a casual viewer would take from the ad is that everyone's rates are going up. But that's not true, based on what experts told us. The AFP ad cherry picks the facts and draws a conclusion beyond what the evidence supports, but it will prove accurate for some people. We rate the statement Half True.” [PolitiFact, [7/16/13](#)]
- **“There’s Nothing In The Affordable Care Act That Would Keep A Patient From Picking His Or Her Own Doctor.”** According to CBS News, “There's nothing in the Affordable Care Act that would keep a patient from picking his or her own doctor, though there's evidence that premiums for healthy people could be higher on the health insurance exchanges that should be up and running by next year.” [CBS News, [7/8/13](#)]

Americans For Prosperity-Ohio Later Ran A Radio Version Of The Anti-ACA Ad In August 2013. According to a post by Americans for Prosperity-Ohio, “Americans for Prosperity-Ohio is announcing today a new radio ad aimed at highlighting

the negative consequences of President Obama's healthcare law. The ad, which will run in Ohio and other key states around the country beginning today, is part of a larger educational effort intended to reach those who stand to suffer the most under ObamaCare, and educate them on how the law could negatively impact their healthcare. [...] The new radio ad titled 'Questions' will feature Julie, a mother of two, who has doubts about how the President's healthcare law will impact her family." [Americans For Prosperity-Ohio, [8/15/13](#)]

Americans For Prosperity Ran Another Anti-ACA Ad in October 2013. According to Americans for Prosperity-Ohio, "Americans for Prosperity, the nation's leading free-market advocacy group, has released its latest installment in a series of ads targeting ObamaCare. Told from the perspective of Tricia, an AFP activist and two-time cancer survivor, the ad casts doubt on whether patients under ObamaCare would receive the kind of urgent, quality care that saved Tricia's life. The ad starts today and will run through the first week of October throughout Alaska, Arkansas, Louisiana, North Carolina, Ohio, and Virginia. [...] This ad is the fourth in a series from AFP that feature personal stories to highlight the negative impact of ObamaCare." [Americans For Prosperity-Ohio, [9/19/13](#)]

Americans For Prosperity Launched A Fourth Round Of Anti-ACA Ads In September, Which Aired "In Ohio And Five Other States." According to the Columbus Dispatch, "Last week, Americans for Prosperity, the conservative advocacy group tied to billionaire energy executives Charles and David Koch, launched a \$3 million anti-Obamacare ad campaign in Ohio and five other states. It's the group's fourth television ad since July." [Columbus Dispatch, [9/29/13](#)]

- **AFP Spent \$3 Million On The September Campaign.** According to the Columbus Dispatch, "Last week, Americans for Prosperity, the conservative advocacy group tied to billionaire energy executives Charles and David Koch, launched a \$3 million anti-Obamacare ad campaign in Ohio and five other states. It's the group's fourth television ad since July." [Columbus Dispatch, [9/29/13](#)]

AFP-Ohio Director Eli Miller On The Ads Targeting Obamacare: "Ohio Is Ground Zero. It's The Forefront Of Everything Going On." According to the Columbus Dispatch, "'Ohio is ground zero. It's the forefront of everything going on,' said Eli Miller, state director for Americans for Prosperity. 'We believe the health-care law is flawed, and the ads highlight the negative consequences.'" [Columbus Dispatch, [9/29/13](#)]

AFP-Ohio Ran An Ad In The State "About The Negative Impact Obamacare Will Have On Healthcare Choice." According to an AFP-Ohio press release, "Americans for Prosperity, the nation's largest free-market grassroots organization, has released in Ohio and multiple other states the third in a series of personal testimonials that raise important questions about the negative impact ObamaCare will have on healthcare choice. The new ad features Renay, the mom of a young girl, Caleigh, whose life has been saved by four open heart surgeries performed by physicians who have looked after her since she was born. Because the new health care law restricts the freedom of patients to keep their doctors, Renay worries that she and others will not have the same access to care in the future." [AFP-Ohio Press Release, [9/4/13](#)]

AFP-OHIO ATTACKED COLUMBUS MAYOR ANDREW GINTHER

AFP-OH Sent A Flier "Blasting" Columbus Mayor Andrew Ginther "For The Number Of Tax Abatements That Columbus Hands Out To Developers And Corporations." According to the Columbus Dispatch, "Franklin County Sheriff Zach Scott agrees with the Koch brothers on at least one issue: Andrew J. Ginther approves too many tax abatements. The Ohio chapter of Americans for Prosperity, the group backed by Republicans Charles and David Koch, sent out a flier last week blasting Ginther for the number of tax abatements that Columbus hands out to developers and corporations." [Columbus Dispatch, [4/9/15](#)]

AFP Said They Were "Not Endorsing Or Denouncing Any Candidates" In Columbus's Mayor's Race. According to the Columbus Dispatch, "The Ohio chapter of Americans for Prosperity, the group backed by Republicans Charles and David Koch, sent out a flier last week blasting [Andrew] Ginther for the number of tax abatements that Columbus hands out to developers and corporations. Baylor Myers, the chapter's deputy director, said his group isn't endorsing or denouncing any candidates in the mayor's race (both [Zach] Scott and Ginther are running, along with fellow Democrat James Ragland and Republican Terry Boyd) but instead is addressing what he called bad policy." [Columbus Dispatch, [4/9/15](#)]

Columbus City Council President Andy Ginther Was Targeted In An Ad Campaign By AFP, Which Criticized Him For "His Support Of Tax Abatements For...Corporations And Special Interests." According to This Week News, "[Columbus City Council President Andy] Ginther has been the target of an ad campaign by billionaire brothers Charles and

David Koch, who have contributed heavily to libertarian and conservative causes nationwide. Their latest Americans for Prosperity campaign criticizes Ginther for his support of tax abatements for what they consider wealthy corporations and special interests.” [This Week News, [4/24/15](#)]

AFP BUILT “A STATE-OF-THE-ART DIGITAL GROUND OPERATION IN OHIO” FOR THE 2012 ELECTION

AFP Built “A State-Of-The-Art Digital Ground Operation In Ohio” For The 2012 Election. According to the Guardian, “Americans for Prosperity, the Tea Party-aligned group part-funded by the billionaire Koch brothers, is building a state-of-the-art digital ground operation in Ohio and other vital battleground states to spread its anti-Obama message to voters who could decide the outcome of the presidential election. The group hopes that by creating a local army of activists equipped with sophisticated online micro-targeting tools it will increase its impact on moderate voters, nudging them towards a staunchly conservative position opposed to President Obama's economic and healthcare policies. Americans for Prosperity (AFP) is spending tens of millions of dollars developing its local strategy, already employing more than 200 permanent staff in 32 states.” [Guardian, [10/18/12](#)]

- **AFP Volunteers In Ohio Were “Given A Script” For “Engaging Voters.”** According to the Guardian, “In Ohio, volunteers are given a script which they follow when engaging voters. ‘President Obama took office three years ago and promised to fix our economy,’ they say, ‘yet unemployment is still high and our debt is up to \$6tn.’” [Guardian, [10/18/12](#)]
- **AFP Made 400,000 Phone Calls To Ohio Voters Between May And October 2012.** According to the Guardian, “Volunteers are empowered with mobile canvassing technology that directs them to the households that are most likely to be influenced by AFP's message of small government and tax cuts through software built on to handheld tablet computers. They are also equipped with the latest phone banking technology through which they have made 400,000 calls to Ohio's voters since May.” [Guardian, [10/18/12](#)]
- **The Voter Database Used By AFP In Ohio Was Created With “Seed Money From The Kochs.”** According to the Guardian, “AFP's ground operation in Ohio and other states is built around an interactive online network that links its volunteers with a centralised database of information on millions of American voters. The database, called Themis after the Greek god of wisdom, was created with the help of seed money from the Kochs. The database draws information on voters from a range of public and commercial sources to create a profile of their likely political behaviour. [...] That, in turn, allows AFP activists to micro-target households with a level of precision that could only be dreamed about in previous generations. ‘This is an exponential leap forward for our side – with Themis as our crucial partner, we are able to leverage our dollars and refine our message,’ Phillips said.” [Guardian, [10/18/12](#)]

AFP Had “80 Paid Staff Operating In The State Out Of Seven Permanent Offices” In Ohio In 2012. According to the Guardian, “AFP's growing influence is highly visible in Ohio, one of the most crucial battleground states upon which November's outcome depends. It now has 80 paid staff operating in the state out of seven permanent offices.” [Guardian, [10/18/12](#)]

AFP “Committed Or Spent More Than \$466,000” On Television Advertising In Toledo, Ohio By July 2012.

According to the Toledo Blade, “As of Friday morning, Toledo-area TV and radio stations had booked more than \$7.8 million in advertising this year -- and local channels have not yet heard from presumptive Republican nominee Mitt Romney. [...] The Tea Party group Americans For Prosperity has committed or spent more than \$466,000 for Toledo TV advertising to attack President Obama on the economy and on health care.” [Toledo Blade, [7/15/12](#)]

AFP WAGED AN “AGGRESSIVE CAMPAIGN” AGAINST SHERROD BROWN

AFP Also Waged “An Aggressive Campaign” Against Sen. Sherrod Brown. According to the Guardian, “AFP is also waging an aggressive campaign against Sherrod Brown, the Democratic senator for Ohio, under the rubric: ‘Has Brown worked for you?’ It has a fleet of vans bearing the senator's picture with the logo: ‘Obama's rubber stamp for failure.’ Leading figures within the Ohio Democratic party have been watching the activities of AFP and other outlying conservative groups with mounting alarm. Ted Strickland, the former Democratic governor of Ohio, told the Guardian that in his view the activities of such groups had the capacity ‘to move us from a democracy to an oligarchy where a handful of wealthy people use their money to try to control the political process’. Strickland said that Brown's struggle to get re-elected was a ‘clear example

of the corrosive influence of outside money. He should be 20 points ahead were it not for a massive amount of negative advertising coming from billionaires trying to buy a senate seat.” [Guardian, [10/18/12](#)]

- **Sherrod Brown’s Campaign Said AFP Spent \$76,000 On Radio Ads Against Brown In August 2012 Alone.** According to Sherrod Brown’s website, “Secretly funded third party groups have launched an all out attack against Sherrod Brown in the month of August, with six different groups attacking Sherrod including five different groups running ads simultaneously to lie about his record and keep Josh Mandel’s campaign afloat. Pushing the total amount of outside spending against Sherrod Brown to \$15.2 million, the six groups spending in August are: [...] Americans For Prosperity – Spending 76k on radio this month.” [SherrodBrown.com, [August 2012](#)]

The Progressive: Americans For Prosperity Handled The “Polling And On-The-Ground Work” Against Sen. Sherrod Brown In 2012. According to The Progressive, “The \$10 million figure Brown refers to is the massive amount of out-of-state cash that conservative groups are pouring into the Ohio Senate race, in support of his opponent, thirty-five-year-old Josh Mandel. The fifty-nine-year-old Brown is one of the most liberal Senators in Congress - and in a swing state, no less. [...] Both Rove’s Crossroads GPS and the U.S. Chamber of Commerce are nonprofit groups that can raise unlimited amounts of cash and do not have to reveal who their donors are. They are not allowed to coordinate their activities with candidates or official campaign committees but they do talk amongst themselves. Crossroads and the Chamber air the negative ads while groups such as the Koch brothers’ Americans for Prosperity handle polling and on-the-ground work. By August, conservative groups had spent more than \$15 million against Brown.” [The Progressive, 10/15/12]

AFP HELD A “RALLY FOR ECONOMIC FREEDOM” IN COLUMBUS, OHIO AS PART OF ITS “OBAMA’S FAILING AGENDA” TOUR

AFP Held A “Rally For Economic Freedom” In Columbus, Ohio As Part Of Its “Obama’s Failing Agenda” Tour. According to an AFP web post, “Today Americans for Prosperity (AFP) announced the Rally for Economic Freedom featuring a special performance by the multi-platinum selling American rock band 3 Doors Down. The rally will also feature special guest speakers Laura Ingraham, Rusty Humphries, Tony Katz, and AFP President Tim Phillips. The event will be a major highlight of AFP’s ongoing ‘Obama’s Failing Agenda’ tour, and will feature all three AFP tour buses. ‘This is a can’t miss event! Americans for Prosperity is incredibly excited to share our message of liberty and individual freedom with some phenomenal entertainers,’ said Tim Phillips, President of AFP. ‘With so many Americans struggling in the Obama “recovery,” this is a great opportunity for some fantastic entertainment combined with the powerful message of economic freedom.’ [...] Location: Columbus Convention Center.” [AmericansForProsperity.org, [9/28/12](#)]

PolitiFact Rated The Claim In An AFP Ad Airing In Ohio That “Blames President Barack Obama For Sending Stimulus Money Overseas” As “Mostly False.” According to PolitiFact, “A TV ad running in Ohio and seven other states blames President Barack Obama for sending stimulus money overseas while Americans are out of work. ‘Tell President Obama, American tax dollars should help American taxpayers,’ the narrator says. Instead, \$2.3 billion in tax credits funded jobs in Mexico, Finland and China, the ad claims. Americans for Prosperity, a group dedicated to ‘educating citizens about economic policy’ that works closely with tea party activists and has been funded by the conservative Koch family, released the ad April 26, 2012. [...] We looked to see if those tax credits included ‘tens of millions of dollars to build traffic lights in China.’ We rated that claim Mostly False.” [PolitiFact, [5/9/12](#)]

- **PolitiFact Rated Two Other Claims In That Ad “False” And “Pants On Fire.”** According to PolitiFact, “Americans for Prosperity, a group dedicated to ‘educating citizens about economic policy’ that works closely with tea party activists and has been funded by the conservative Koch family, released the ad April 26, 2012. We previously checked out two claims from the ad, about stimulus tax credits supposedly funding a plant in Mexico (Pants on Fire) and paying for jobs in Finland (False).” [PolitiFact, [5/9/12](#)]

2010: AFP “SPENT JUST OVER \$100,000” ATTACKING DEMOCRATIC REP. ZACK SPACE OF OHIO

AFP “Spent Just Over \$100,000” On An Ad “Attacking Democratic Rep. Zack Space Of Ohio For Voting In Favor Of Climate Change Legislation.” According to the Center for Public Integrity, “Americans for Prosperity, a conservative group with links to the billionaire co-owner of industrial giant Koch Industries, has launched an ad attacking Democratic Rep. Zack Space of Ohio for voting in favor of climate change legislation. The group is a Virginia-based 501(c)(4) tax-exempt

organization dedicated to limited government. Americans for Prosperity spent just over \$100,000 on the new 30-second ad, according to a filing with the Federal Election Commission.” [Center for Public Integrity, [10/21/10](#)]

- **AFP Spent \$102,973 On Rep. Space’s (D-OH) Campaign In 2010.** According to the Center for Responsive Politics, AFP spent \$102,943 on Rep. Space’s (D-OH) campaign in 2010. [OpenSecrets.org, accessed [8/6/15](#)]

AFP Organized The “November Is Coming” Campaign In Ohio, To Remind Voters That Rep. Zack Space “Voted In Favor Of The American Recovery And Reinvestment Act.” According to the Chillicothe Gazette, “Organizers with the November is Coming campaign stopped in Yoctangee Park on Saturday afternoon in an effort to get local tea party members involved in petition efforts this Spring. The November is Coming campaign is organized by Americans for Prosperity, who say their goal is to cut taxes and reduce the size of government. The group says voters in Ohio's 18th District need to be reminded Rep. Zack Space, D-Dover, voted in favor of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. ‘We’re not here to bash candidates and elected officials, but to educate people on how they voted,’ said Rebecca Heimlich, the Ohio State Director of Americans for Prosperity.” [Chillicothe Gazette, 8/2/10]

- **“So Far, \$7.8 Million Has Been Awarded In Ohio From The Stimulus Bill, And \$2.4 Million Already Has Been Received Creating Or Saving An Estimated 25,887 Jobs.”** According to the Chillicothe Gazette, “So far, \$7.8 million has been awarded in Ohio from the stimulus bill, and \$2.4 million already has been received creating or saving an estimated 25,887 jobs. In the 18th District about 358 jobs have been saved or created with stimulus money according to recovery.gov, the official stimulus tracking Web site. Andrew Ricci, a spokesperson for Space said the bill has been important in saving jobs in a struggling economy.” [Chillicothe Gazette, 8/2/10]
- **“In The 18th District About 358 Jobs Have Been Saved Or Created With Stimulus Money.”** According to the Chillicothe Gazette, “So far, \$7.8 million has been awarded in Ohio from the stimulus bill, and \$2.4 million already has been received creating or saving an estimated 25,887 jobs. In the 18th District about 358 jobs have been saved or created with stimulus money according to recovery.gov, the official stimulus tracking Web site. Andrew Ricci, a spokesperson for Space said the bill has been important in saving jobs in a struggling economy.” [Chillicothe Gazette, 8/2/10]
- **In Total, Ohio Received Over \$8 Billion In Funds From The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act.** According Recovery.org, Ohio has received \$8,522,386,983 in funding for projects throughout the state. [Recovery.gov, accessed [8/14/15](#)]

AFP-Ohio Director Rebecca Heimlich: Rep. Space “Voted For The Stimulus And What Happened? We Lost Jobs...We've Got An Election In November, And The Good Thing Is, We've Got A Chance To Make A Change.” According to the Chillicothe Gazette, “‘We’re not here to bash candidates and elected officials, but to educate people on how they voted,’ said Rebecca Heimlich, the Ohio State Director of Americans for Prosperity. The group is non-partisan, and they said they do not endorse candidates.[...] Heimlich said Space believes in big government programs that she says are too costly for the country to support. ‘(Space) voted for the stimulus and what happened? We lost jobs,’ Heimlich said. ‘We’ve got an election in November, and the good thing is, we’ve got a chance to make a change.’” [Chillicothe Gazette, 8/2/10]

“The November Is Coming Campaign Also Asks Voters To Sign A Petition Stating They Will Vote Against Candidates Who Supported Health Care Reform And Stimulus Legislation.” According to the Chillicothe Gazette, “The group is non-partisan, and they said they do not endorse candidates. The November is Coming campaign also asks voters to sign a petition stating they will vote against candidates who supported health care reform and stimulus legislation. Heimlich said Space believes in big government programs that she says are too costly for the country to support.” [Chillicothe Gazette, 8/2/10]

OUTSIDE GROUPS INCLUDING AFP SPENT \$1.5 MILLION FOR OHIO 16TH DISTRICT CANDIDATE JIM RENACCI

“The Prospects” Of Jim Renacci, The GOP Challenger To Democrat Rep. John Boccieri In Ohio's 16th District, Were “Lifted” By \$1.5 Million In Outside Spending By Groups Including Americans For Prosperity. According to the Charleston Gazette, “Ignoring political advertising is a tough feat in Ohio's 16th Congressional District, which has seen one of the year's biggest influxes of third-party campaign spending in House races as Republicans try to wrest the seat from Rep. John Boccieri, a freshman Democrat. The prospects of GOP challenger Jim Renacci, a wealthy businessman, have been lifted

by an estimated \$1.5 million in TV ads expected to run on his behalf by groups with undisclosed donors such as 60 Plus, the Americans for Prosperity Foundation and the National Federation of Independent Business.” [Charleston Gazette, 10/22/10]

A \$4.1 MILLION AFP AD BUY “SLAMMING ‘WASTEFUL FEDERAL SPENDING” AIRED IN 11 STATES INCLUDING OHIO

A \$4.1 Million AFP Ad Buy “Slamming ‘Wasteful Federal Spending” Aired In 11 States Including Ohio. According to The Los Angeles Times, “A conservative advocacy group Monday will kick off a huge ad campaign in 11 states and two dozen of the most competitive congressional races, slamming ‘wasteful federal spending.’ The \$4.1-million ad buy from the Americans for Prosperity Foundation does not mention individual candidates in the November election. The script attacks Washington policies, describing the economic stimulus program as a failure and declaring that ‘wasteful spending must stop.’ The ads -- part of a midterm election likely to be the most expensive on record -- will run in 27 media markets through August. Democrats hold all but one of the 24 House seats in question, including 17 incumbents seeking reelection. The television buys are in Arkansas, Indiana, Michigan, Missouri, North Dakota, Ohio, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia and Wisconsin. Several of those, including Ohio, Pennsylvania and Missouri, also have tight Senate races.” [Los Angeles Times, 8/16/10]

60 Plus Association Election Activity In Ohio

60 PLUS SPENT \$680 IN SUPPORT OF REP. BILL JOHNSON IN THE 2014 CYCLE

60 Plus Association Spent \$680 In Support Of Rep. Bill Johnson In The Ohio District 6 Race. [OpenSecrets.org, Accessed [7/10/15](#)]

60 PLUS SPENT MORE THAN \$2.4 MILLION ATTACKING SEN. SHERROD BROWN IN 2012

60 Plus Spent \$2.4 Million Against Sen. Sherrod Brown By July 2012. According to the Huffington Post, “Crossroads GPS, the advocacy group launched by Karl Rove, is coming out with a \$1.1 million ad campaign against Sen. Sherrod Brown (D-Ohio) on Tuesday, pushing the total amount of conservative spending in that race to more than \$10 million. [...] The U.S. Chamber of Commerce is the biggest spender in the race, putting in \$3.8 million. Crossroads GPS is next, spending \$2.5 million, followed by the 60 Plus Association at \$2.4 million.” [Huffington Post, [7/9/12](#)]

60 Plus Spent \$750,000 On An Ad Against Brown In November 2011 Opposing The Independent Payment Advisory Board Established Under The Affordable Care Act. According to the National Journal Daily AM, “The 60 Plus Association, a national group that bills itself as the ‘conservative alternative’ to the AARP, is hitting Sen. Sherrod Brown, D-Ohio, with a significant six-figure television ad buy focusing on health care that began airing on Wednesday. ‘Obama’s health care law cuts \$500 billion from Medicare and creates a board of 15 unelected, unaccountable bureaucrats. It’s like a Medicare IRS with the power to cut Medicare in order to pay for new government programs,’ a narrator says in the ad. 60 Plus is spending \$750,000 on the advertisement, which specifically targets the creation of the Independent Payment Advisory Board. ‘This IPAB board can ration care and deny certain Medicare treatments so Washington can fund more wasteful spending,’ says singer/actor Pat Boone in the ad.” [National Journal Daily AM, 11/9/11]

60 Plus Spent \$232,000 On An Ad Against Brown Opposing The IPAB in August 2012. According to Politico, “The conservative 60 Plus Association is launching ads in the Ohio and Florida Senate races today, criticizing Democratic incumbents for the Independent Payment Advisory Board set up by the Democratic-backed national health care law. [...] The ads start running today with \$276,000 behind them in Florida and \$232,000 behind them in Ohio.” [Politico, [8/15/12](#)]

- **The Ads “Feature Singer Pat Boone Saying That ‘A Lot Of Promises Were Made Regarding Health Care Reform’ That Haven’t Panned Out.”** According to Politico, “The spots – shared early with POLITICO – feature singer Pat Boone saying that ‘a lot of promises were made regarding health care reform’ that haven’t panned out. ‘The new health care law creates a board of 15 unelected bureaucrats. It’s like a Medicare IRS, with a power to cut Medicare in order to pay for new government programs,’ the narrator says.” [Politico, [8/15/12](#)]

- **Politico: The Ads Represented “Re-Emergence Of The 60 Plus Association On The National Level.”** According to Politico, “Both Florida Sen. Bill Nelson and Ohio Sen. Sherrod Brown are in somewhat competitive races this fall (Brown more than Nelson) and the presence of yet another GOP-friendly outside group in their states is significant. Perhaps more significant is the re-emergence of the 60 Plus Association on the national level. The group, which focuses on moving older voters, played a significant role in the 2010 congressional elections by targeting Democrats on health care. With health care and entitlements now front and center in the presidential race, thanks to Mitt Romney’s selection of Paul Ryan as his running mate, the decision by 60 Plus to start reengaging in Senate races is all the more significant.” [Politico, [8/15/12](#)]

60 Plus Made A “\$1 Million Ad Buy” Against Brown In June 2012. According to a 60 Plus Association web post, “The 60 Plus Association, nationally recognized as the conservative alternative to the liberal AARP, today launched a new TV ad campaign that challenges the outcomes of Ohio Senator Sherrod Brown’s votes for multiple government bailouts, the failed \$831 billion stimulus, and Obama’s health care takeover. [...] The \$1 million ad buy will run statewide from June 6 to June 12.” [60Plus.org, [6/6/12](#)]

60 PLUS SPENT \$15,497 IN SUPPORT OF JOSH MANDEL FOR SENATE IN OHIO IN 2012

60 Plus Spent \$15,497 In Support Of Josh Mandel For Senate In Ohio In 2012. According to the Center for Responsive Politics, the 60 Plus Association spent \$15,497 in support of Josh Mandel for Senate in Ohio in 2012. [OpenSecrets.org, accessed [7/30/15](#)]

Concerned Veterans For America Election Activity In Ohio

2012: CVA SET UP A CALL CENTER TARGETING OHIO VOTERS THAT AIMED TO “TO STEER VOTES ROMNEY'S WAY”

CVA Set Up A Call Center Targeting Ohio Voters For The 2012 Election That Aimed To “To Steer Votes Romney's Way.” According to the Buffalo News, “Back in Buffalo, longtime Republican activist Russ Gugino is coordinating a call center for Concerned Veterans for America, a 501(c)(4) political organization that is not allowed to directly advocate for Mitt Romney but that nonetheless aims to steer votes Romney's way. Calling targeted homes in Ohio, the Buffalo volunteers for the veterans group ask voters two questions: if they're happy with the way things are going in the country, and if they have voted or if they are planning to vote. Those who are unhappy with the way things are going will get a follow-up call on Election Day, encouraging them to vote and because they're unhappy, they're likely to vote for Romney, Gugino said.” [Buffalo News, 11/5/12]

Generation Opportunity Election Activity In Ohio

GEN OPP HOSTED AN EVENT WITH REP. JIM JORDAN IN 2014

Generation Opportunity Announced It Would Host An Online “Google Hangout” With Rep. Jim Jordan To Discuss “The U.S. Economy, National Debt And Police Militarization.” According to the Cleveland Plain Dealer, “If you ever wanted to hang out with Rep. Jim Jordan without leaving your house or inviting him over, Thursday is your big chance. A group called Generation Opportunity will host an online ‘Google Hangout’ with the conservative Champaign County congressman Thursday at 7 p.m., when Jordan will discuss topics including the U.S. economy, national debt and police militarization with the group's president, Evan Feinberg, before taking questions from watch parties at universities in Columbus, Dayton and Cincinnati.” [Cleveland Plain Dealer, [8/27/14](#)]

GEN OPP ORGANIZED GRASSROOTS SUPPORTERS IN OHIO DURING THE 2012 ELECTION

Generation Opportunity Organized Grassroots Supporters In Ohio During The 2012 Election. According to a Generation Opportunity press release, “Generation Opportunity was heavily involved in reshaping both the terrain and the

national dialogue with regard to the young adult vote going into the 2012 election. [...] Generation Opportunity field organizers engaged, in person, over 250,000 young adults at over 600 targeted events nationwide. Major events included the League of Latin American Citizens (LULAC) annual convention, American Student Government Association leadership conference, the National Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, and over 500 state, county, and community events, such as Earth Day festivals, concerts, sporting events, farmers markets, and various cultural festivals. Generation Opportunity's grassroots field team organized young people in North Carolina, Missouri, Massachusetts, Virginia, Maine, Florida, New Hampshire, New Mexico, Ohio, California, New Jersey, and Nevada, among others.” [Generation Opportunity Press Release, 11/27/12]

Freedom Partners

OHIO-BASED FREEDOM PARTNERS DONOR DEFENDED KOCHS IN OP-ED AHEAD OF THE 2016 ELECTIONS

Freedom Partners Member, Bill O’Neill, Opinion Headline: “Defending The Koch Brothers Before The Ohio 2016 Campaign Heats Up.” [Bill O’Neill – Cleveland Plain Dealer, [4/26/15](#)]

Leaseway Transportation Retired CEO And Freedom Partners Member, Bill O’Neill, Wrote An Op-Ed For The Cleveland Plain Dealer In Defense Of The Kochs. According to an op-ed by retired president and chief operating officer of Leaseway Transportation Corp. and a member of Freedom Partners Chamber of Commerce, Bill O’Neill, for the Cleveland Plain Dealer, “Charles and David Koch are two successful entrepreneurs. Like millions of Ohioans and hundreds of millions of Americans, they are deeply concerned about the future of our country. They worry that politicians in Washington have forgotten the principles that made America free and prosperous — the principles enshrined in the Constitution and the Declaration of Independence. They fear that the federal government is helping the well-connected while harming everyone else. They are alarmed that the American Dream is increasingly out of reach for the poor and the middle class.” [Bill O’Neill – Cleveland Plain Dealer, [4/26/15](#)]

O’Neill: Like Millions Of Ohioans And Hundreds Of Millions Of Americans, Charles And David Koch “Are Deeply Concerned About The Future Of Our Country.” Charles and David Koch are two successful entrepreneurs. Like millions of Ohioans and hundreds of millions of Americans, they are deeply concerned about the future of our country. They worry that politicians in Washington have forgotten the principles that made America free and prosperous — the principles enshrined in the Constitution and the Declaration of Independence. They fear that the federal government is helping the well-connected while harming everyone else. They are alarmed that the American Dream is increasingly out of reach for the poor and the middle class.” [Bill O’Neill – Cleveland Plain Dealer, [4/26/15](#)]

O’Neill: “As An Ohioan And Retired Business Owner, I Stand With” The Kochs, “And The Nonprofit Organizations Associated With Them, Including Freedom Partners Chamber Of Commerce.” According to an op-ed by retired president and chief operating officer of Leaseway Transportation Corp. and a member of Freedom Partners Chamber of Commerce, Bill O’Neill, for the Cleveland Plain Dealer, “And they’re fighting to change this. As an Ohioan and retired business owner, I stand with them. Along with hundreds of others — including quite a few in the Cleveland area — I support Charles and David Koch and the nonprofit organizations associated with them, including Freedom Partners Chamber of Commerce. We want everyone to have the same opportunities we did. That will only be possible if we change how Washington does business.” [Bill O’Neill – Cleveland Plain Dealer, [4/26/15](#)]

O’Neill: Remember The Kochs Want To Restore “Liberty” When “You Start Getting The Mailers And Seeing The Ads That Denounce The Koch Brothers.” According to an op-ed by retired president and chief operating officer of Leaseway Transportation Corp. and a member of Freedom Partners Chamber of Commerce, Bill O’Neill, for the Cleveland Plain Dealer, “Not so today, when politicians and bureaucrats are too busy stifling the competition and preventing the innovation that move our country forward. We want to change this by restoring the liberty — and the opportunities that come with it — that is every American’s birthright. Remember that when you start getting the mailers and seeing the ads that denounce the Koch brothers. After all, what’s so bad about enabling everyone to pursue the American Dream?” [Bill O’Neill – Cleveland Plain Dealer, [4/26/15](#)]