



Special Order of Business

2026-05

Support HB 439 and SB 329: Prohibit the Surface Application of Brine from Oil and Gas Wells

For almost 40 years it has been legal in Ohio to spread the oil and gas waste known as “brine” to be spread on our roads as a deicer and dust suppressant. This use for dust suppressant is of particular concern in rural communities with unpaved roads.

In 2019 the Ohio Department of Natural Resources found that all samples from vertical wells exceeded legal limits for discharge into the environment for the radioactive elements radium-226 and radium-228. These substances persist in our soil and water for centuries. “Brine” also contains heavy metals, petroleum products, and other toxic substances that pose a hazard to people and the environment.