

Salutation for Ohio House rep:

The Honorable John Patterson
District 99
77 S. High St
10th Floor
Columbus, OH 43215

or

Salutation for Ohio Senate rep:

The Honorable Capri S. Cafaro
District 32
Senate Building
1 Capitol Square, Ground Floor
Columbus, OH 43215

Re: Harmful Algal Blooms (HABs)

Dear (Representative/Senator) (insert name)

My name is (insert first and last name). I am a (insert credentials, profession, etc) who resides in your District. I am writing to request your support for continued changes to limit the introduction of excess phosphorus (**P**) and nitrogen (**N**) into our lakes and streams. As a concerned resident, harmful algal blooms (HABs) affect water quality within Lake Erie as well as the water quality within my community. Blue-green algae have the potential to generate toxins that can be harmful and feed on those excess nutrients that are introduced within the watershed. A few import points I'd like to make,

- The intent is to improve water quality in Lake Erie, but current legislation ignores most of the Ohio coastline and the watersheds that feed it. All watersheds, which feed the lake, can affect the overall Lake Erie water quality. Our watershed feeds the Grand State Wild and Scenic River and Lake Erie.
- As a resident of Ohio's largest private lake, we would also like to insure that the water quality is protected where we live. Our community is actively addressing fertilizers, cleaners, and overall best practices that we control. We cannot affect the farming practices within our watershed, which have the greatest effect on our lake.
- Although the blooms are currently worse on the western basin, that does not mean that, with time, the problem can extend to the rest of the lake, especially if nothing is done in the central or eastern watersheds.

I hope you recognize the importance continued changes to legislation is to the health of Ohio's lakes, rivers and stream. I ask you to work to modify the current legislation and future legislation to include all watersheds that feed Lake Erie within the State of Ohio, including ours in your District.

Thank you for taking the time to read my letter and please contact me with any additional questions you may have.

Respectfully Yours,
(sign)

Your name (insert full name)

Your legal title (insert title if you have one)

Your contact information (insert your contact information)