

Good afternoon, Senator Lawrence, Representative Zeigler, and members of the Energy, Utilities, and Technology Committee. My name is Silas Blanchard and I am here to support this bill. About seven months ago, my family received news that a transmission line would be coming through our woods. My parents were really sad and angry that someone could do that.

I wasn't very happy about it because me and my brothers and sisters build things and take walks in our woods. I like to watch the critters playing and I like finding tracks and figuring out what made them. We have a lot of different kinds of trees and a lot of birds that live in them. I don't think there would be as many animals without the trees, and I don't think it would be fair for someone to cut down our maple trees that we collect sap from either. My parents taught me that it's wrong to take something that belongs to someone else, so why is it okay for the government to do it?

Our home is the only home I've ever lived in, and I love it. It would be selfish for someone to come along and ruin it. Me and my siblings built a big fort in the woods, and I would prefer the fort to be underneath trees and not underneath transmission lines.

Thank you.