

News From:
Advocates for a Clean Lake Erie



For Immediate Release October 3, 2018
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ACLE TO SENATOR BROWN: “DON’T MISS THE BOAT... AGAIN!!”
WHAT IS YOUR ACTION PLAN FOR LAKE ERIE, SENATOR?
Five questions for the Senator

Members of Advocates for a Clean Lake Erie will picket prior to the news conference scheduled for 2:00pm today at Middlegrounds Metropark, where Mayor Kapszukiewicz and others will endorse Senator Sherrod Brown for what is being called his leadership on environmental issues.

“When it comes to Lake Erie, Senator Brown needs to tell voters exactly what his policy is for Lake Erie because so far we haven’t seen much to celebrate,” said Mike Ferner, ACLE coordinator.

“Even after hundreds of postcards, emails and phone calls to his office, the Senator never supported an impaired status for Lake Erie. To our knowledge he has not come out in favor of a USEPA cleanup similar to Chesapeake Bay based on a Total Daily Maximum Load under the Clean Water Act to determine who the polluters are and hold them accountable, instead of Governor Kasich’s ‘distressed watershed’ scheme.”

“Senator Brown has supported millions of dollars in funding for the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative and for more Dept. of Agriculture-funded buffer strips, but as laudable as those things sound, neither of them will tell us who is responsible for the pollution going into the lake or hold anyone accountable,” Ferner concluded.

ACLE will submit the following questions to Senator Brown so voters can tell what he plans for Lake Erie:

- 1) Do you support a cleanup of Lake Erie under the "impaired watershed" provisions of the Clean Water Act, similar to Chesapeake Bay, as opposed to the "distressed watershed" order issued by Gov. Kasich?
- 2) Do you support a moratorium on any more permits for factory farms in the Lake Erie watershed?
- 3) One dairy factory farm in Williams County generates as much waste as the cities of Sylvania, Maumee, Perrysburg, Fremont and Defiance. That waste is dumped, untreated, on fields that drain into Lake Erie. Do you support requiring factory farms to install sewage treatment plants – without using public subsidies – just like these cities have done?
- 4) Do you support letting Toledoans vote on the Lake Erie Bill of Rights?
- 5) What is your action plan for Lake Erie?

ACLE is preparing a candidate questionnaire to Ohio’s U.S. Senate and House candidates based on the above questions and will publish responses prior to the November election.

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