

WITNESS INFORMATION FORM

PLEASE COMPLETE THE WITNESS INFORMATION FORM BEFORE TESTIFYING

DATE: 3-21-2017

NAME: Alli Gold Roberts

ORGANIZATION: CERES
(IF APPLICABLE)

POSITION/TITLE: Manager, State Policy

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ARE YOU REPRESENTING: YOURSELF _____ ORGANIZATION

DO YOU WISH TO TESTIFY ON
LEGISLATION (BILL NUMBER): HB 114

SPECIFIC ISSUE: _____

SUBJECT MATTER: _____

DO YOU FAVOR _____ OR OPPOSE THE ENACTMENT OF LEGISLATION REGARDING THIS ISSUE?

PLEASE GIVE A BRIEF STATEMENT OF THE GROUNDS ON WHICH YOU FAVOR OR OPPOSE SUCH ENACTMENT: Kill renewable energy in states

WILL YOU HAVE A WRITTEN STATEMENT, VISUAL AIDS, OR OTHER MATERIAL TO DISTRIBUTE?

YES NO _____

(IF YES, PLEASE PROVIDE COPIES TO THE CHAIRMAN OR SECRETARY)

HOW MUCH TIME WILL YOUR TESTIMONY REQUIRE? written only



House Public Utilities Committee
Written Testimony on House Bill 114
March 21, 2017

Dear Chairman Seitz and Members of the House Public Utilities Committee:

We are concerned with the unprecedented pace at which the House Public Utilities Committee is pushing forward on HB 114 and issue the following statement to make clear that we staunchly oppose HB 114.

Major Ohio businesses and manufacturers are saving money as a result of Ohio's alternative energy and energy efficiency standards (S.B. 221).

HB114 would make Ohio's renewable standards voluntary, weaken energy efficiency standards and allow commercial and industrial customers who use more than 700,000 kWh per year to opt out of energy saving programs. These changes would have a devastating impact on the clean energy economy in Ohio.

Ohio's clean energy standards enjoy significant support from the business community.

During the 2016 legislative session, nine major businesses that collectively employ over 25,000 Ohioans, called on lawmakers to reinstate Ohio's successful clean energy standards and oppose HB 554. These companies—Nestle, Whirlpool, Owens Corning and others—support clean energy standards because they help businesses cut energy costs, avoid the volatility of fossil fuel prices, and help companies stay competitive. When Governor Kasich vetoed HB 554, he sent a clear market signal that clean energy jobs, investment and innovation are welcome in Ohio. HB 114 puts Ohio's reputation at risk, again.

HB 114 is a step in the wrong direction.

HB114 will remove the accountability for utilities to invest in energy solutions that save ratepayers money. Lawmakers should encourage energy solutions that work. HB 114 will only serve to stall investments and create prolonged uncertainty for businesses and investors in Ohio.

Ohio stands to lose significant investment and job growth if this bill becomes law.

Ohio's clean energy standards have resulted in thousands of new jobs and stimulated over \$160 million in annual GDP growth. Ratepayers are saving hundreds of millions of dollars each year on their utility bills, and are on track to save over \$5 billion by 2020.

As you consider this legislation, we hope you heed the recommendations of the business community and protect Ohio's clean energy economy.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Alli Gold Roberts".

Alli Gold Roberts
Manager, State Policy
Ceres

Ceres is a non-profit sustainability advocacy organization that mobilizes many of the world's largest companies and investors to take action on clean energy policy.

Appendix:

- Business Statements: Campbell's Soup, Clif Bar & Co., Gap Inc., JLL, Nestlé, Owens Corning, Schneider Electric, United Technologies, Whirlpool
- "Corporate leaders urge GOP to reinstate renewable energy," *The Cleveland Plain Dealer*
- Business Thank You Letter: AMERESCO, Clif Bar & Co., Gap Inc., JLL, NAESCO, Nestlé, Schneider Electric, Whirlpool
- "Kasich vetoes renewable energy freeze, putting standards back into effect," *Columbus Business First*