

# WITNESS INFORMATION FORM

PLEASE COMPLETE THE WITNESS INFORMATION FORM BEFORE TESTIFYING

DATE: 3-21-17

NAME: Frank Szollosi

ORGANIZATION: National Wildlife Federation  
(IF APPLICABLE)

POSITION/TITLE: Manager of Outreach Campaigns

ADDRESS: 213 West Liberty St., Suite 200

CITY: Ann Arbor STATE: MI ZIP: 48104

TELEPHONE: 734-887-7103

ARE YOU REPRESENTING: YOURSELF \_\_\_\_\_ ORGANIZATION

DO YOU WISH TO TESTIFY ON  
LEGISLATION (BILL NUMBER): HB 141  
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: Detrimental to the protection of wildlife & our children's future

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**

**Opposition Testimony on House Bill 114**

**Submitted on behalf of Frank Szollosi, Manager of Regional Outreach Campaigns**

**National Wildlife Federation**

**March 21, 2017**

The National Wildlife Federation strongly opposes House Bill 114, legislation attempting to dismantle Ohio's renewable energy standards by changing them into unenforceable goals and reducing the state's energy efficiency benchmarks.

In December, Governor Kasich clearly demonstrated that he has a vision for Ohio's clean energy future. By vetoing House Bill 554, the Governor provided for the reinstatement of Ohio's renewable energy and energy efficiency standards that were working to create jobs, grow the economy, and reduce harmful emissions. The state of Ohio had renewed its commitment to advancing our energy policy. Now, just a few short months later, HB 114 proposes to put us even further behind.

Recent clean energy victories in the nearby states of Michigan and Illinois were supported by broad-based coalitions of businesses, conservationists, consumer's advocates and citizens who recognize that you can protect clean air, critical wildlife habitat and cut carbon emissions while also supporting good jobs and powering the strongest manufacturing economy in the world. They are moving their states forward. In a period of uncertain times, these states are telling clean energy businesses they can invest with certainty and confidence. So why would Ohio pull the rug out from under these job-creating companies that may be looking to invest in our state?

Because our mission is to inspire Americans to protect wildlife for our children's future, the National Wildlife Federation sees additional benefits to maintaining Ohio's recently reinstated clean energy standards. By preserving our commitment to renewable, clean and advanced energy sources today, we can reduce the pollution that threatens our fish and wildlife every day. That is why we have consistently supported the reduction of Ohio's reliance on coal-burning power plants and the transition to greater renewable energy and energy efficiency to fulfill our energy needs. This action will ultimately protect human health while also protecting wildlife and their habitats.

We cannot afford to turn back the clock on our energy standards. By doing so, we risk Ohio once again being left behind as the next generation of jobs emerge elsewhere. We lock in higher electricity bills for Ohio's consumers at a time when they can least afford it, we expose our population to harmful emissions from traditional coal-fired power plants, and we cast aside our commitment to preserve our natural habitats for generations to come.

The National Wildlife Federation community of hunters, anglers and outdoor enthusiasts supports maintaining the strength and integrity of Ohio's clean energy standards. It is time to move past the debate over clean energy standards and address Ohio's overwhelming potential to develop an innovative energy strategy that will make us a leader in the region. We strongly oppose HB 114.

National Wildlife Federation  
Great Lakes Regional Center  
213 West Liberty Street, Suite 200  
Ann Arbor, Michigan 48104  
(734)-887-7103