



**Proponent Testimony on HB 114  
Ohio Senate Energy & Natural Resources Committee  
January 10, 2018**

Chairman Balderson, Vice Chair Jordan, and Ranking Member O'Brien and members of the Committee, thank you for allowing me the opportunity to testify today in support of HB 114. My name is Michael Cope and I am the Interim President of the Ohio Coal Association (OCA). OCA is a trade association consisting of members throughout Ohio that collectively represent every aspect of the regional coal industry.

We want to once again express our strong support for HB 114's provisions that renewable standards for Utilities be entirely voluntary. It has taken several years and many hearings to come to this point. The OCA believes in the wisdom of the free market and support returning energy policy in Ohio to those principles.

The OCA has met with many, if not all of the Committee members, to listen to your thoughts and concerns and understand that some of you may wish to alter certain pieces of the bill. OCA stands ready to work with the Committee and the General Assembly to achieve a positive result that protects Ohio's jobs and ensures your constituents have access to affordable and reliable energy.

Thank you and if you have questions I will answer to the best of my ability.

Respectfully,

Michael D. Cope  
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