



Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee  
**Opponent Testimony on Ohio House Bill 114**  
October 17, 2017

Dear Chairman Troy Balderson and Members of the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee:

As businesses, employers and investors in Ohio, we strongly oppose House Bill 114, a bill that 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. House Bill 114 will only create prolonged uncertainty for businesses and investors operating in Ohio.

House Bill 114 would reduce the state's energy efficiency resource standard to 17 percent in 2027, from the original 22.5 percent target, and weaken the effectiveness of the standard by expanding what counts as efficiency improvements. The bill would also allow all customers to opt-out of the renewable energy standard.

Clean energy standards help businesses cut energy costs, avoid the volatility of fossil fuel prices, and help us stay competitive. They also help us plan ahead and make sound investment decisions into the future. House Bill 114 will further constrain investment and growth in the state by removing the requirements for utilities to invest in some of the most competitive and least-cost energy resources—clean energy.

While the original standards were in place, investments in Ohio's clean energy sector created thousands of new jobs [and stimulated over \\$160 million in annual GDP growth](#). In addition, ratepayers were saving hundreds of millions of dollars each year on their bills, and were on track to save over [\\$5 billion](#) by 2020. States with clean energy standards are better able to meet the needs of businesses and offer diverse energy options—helping Ohio compete in today's global economy.

We recognize the significant economic opportunity presented by renewable energy and energy efficiency standards and urge you to vote against this legislation and protect Ohio's clean energy economy. Please do not hesitate to contact us with any questions.

Sincerely,

Burton Snowboards

Clif Bar & Co.

CREE

Friends Fiduciary Corporation

Gap Inc.

IKEA North America Services

JLL

Nestlé

Schneider Electric

Trillium Asset Management

Unitarian Universalist  
Association

CC: Governor John Kasich

For more information, please contact Alli Gold Roberts at [goldroberts@ceres.org](mailto:goldroberts@ceres.org), 617-247-0700 ext. 105