

WITNESS INFORMATION FORM

Please complete the Witness Information Form before testifying:

Date: December 3 2020

Name: Tristan Rader

Are you representing: Yourself Organization

Organization (If Applicable): Solar United Neighbors

Position/Title: Ohio Program Director

Address: 1348 St Charles Ave.

City: Lakewood State: Ohio Zip: 44107

Best Contact Telephone: 440-315-2852 Email: Trader@solarunitedneighbors.org

Do you wish to be added to the committee notice email distribution list? Yes No

Business before the committee

Legislation (Bill/Resolution Number): HB 298

Specific Issue: does not repeal HB 6

Are you testifying as a: Proponent Opponent X Interested Party

Will you have a written statement, visual aids, or other material to distribute? Yes No

(If yes, please send an electronic version of the documents, if possible, to the Chair's office prior to committee. You may also submit hard copies to the Chair's staff prior to committee.)

How much time will your testimony require? This is only written testimony. Will not be appearing in person.

Please provide a brief statement on your position: below

Please be advised that this form and any materials (written or otherwise) submitted or presented to this committee are records that may be requested by the public and may be published online.

Dear Chair,

Thank you Chair, Ranking Member, and members of the committee for the opportunity to testify in opposition to House Bill 798. My name is Tristan Rader, and I am the Director at Solar United Neighbors of Ohio. We are a non-profit organization that represents thousands of solar homeowners. Solar United Neighbors helps people go solar and fight for their energy rights.

We strongly opposed HB 6 because the bill unfairly forces Ohio ratepayers and taxpayers to subsidize failing coal and nuclear electricity-generating operations, and because it weakens the state's sensible clean energy policies and delays the necessary and beneficial movement to building a cleaner energy economy for all Ohioans. On policy grounds and in light of the outrageous corruption scandal surrounding the bill's passage, we support a full and clean repeal immediately. HB 798 is clearly not that. Rather, this bill attempts to affirm HB 6.

Passing HB 798 would send a clear message that bribery works in Ohio. It would show that both our democracy and criminal justice system are inadequate to stop the illegal influence of money in politics. If passed, HB 798 would ensure that FirstEnergy receives \$130 million a year in perpetuity. This is the same FirstEnergy (now called EnergyHarbor) that organized and funded the \$61 million bribery scheme to secure this bailout.

This bill is not the repeal that legislators, on both sides of the aisle, and Governor DeWine, have called for. Please, do what is right: Fully and immediately repeal HB 6.

Sincerely,

Tristan Rader
Ohio Program Director
Solar United Neighbors