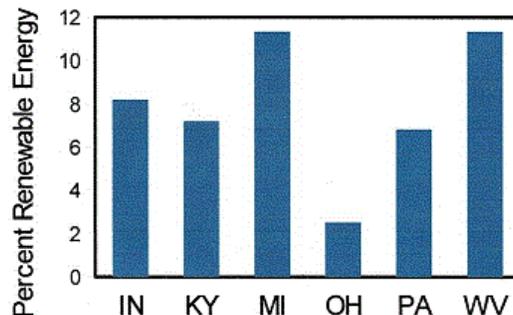


**Interested Party Testimony on HB201 –
PREVENT LOCAL GOVERNMENTS FROM LIMITING NATURAL GAS USE
House Energy and Natural Resources Committee
Alan R. Rosenfield, ScD FASM
April 14, 2021**

Chairman Stephens, Vice-Chairman Stewart, and Ranking Member Weinstein: Thank you for allowing me to testify today. My name is Alan Rosenfield, energy and environmental specialist for the League of Women Voters of Ohio.

This written testimony is motivated by our long-standing and strong advocacy of renewable energy. We have testified numerous times over the last decade in opposition to legislation restricting the growth of wind and solar energy. As shown in the chart below, these bills have left Ohio lagging our neighbors in using these modern technologies.



LWVO is offering interested party testimony on these bills because they are incomplete. Specifically, the impact of this legislation on renewable energy is unclear. It is possible that HB201, in addition to HB192 (PROHIBIT LOCAL GOVERNMENTS FROM STOPPING CERTAIN ENERGY GENERATION), will be used to inhibit local governments from using electricity derived from renewable sources. As you know, last fall Columbus voters approved 100 percent renewable energy usage. The electoral margin was three to one. Preventing the city from carrying out this mandate is a direct defiance of the will of the people. We recommend that wording be added to state that nothing in this section prevents local government from obtaining electricity from renewable sources.

The League of Women Voters of Ohio was formed in May 1920 out of Ohio's woman suffrage movement. The League is a nonpartisan political organization that encourages informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy. The League has over 4000 members and 32 local Leagues across the Buckeye State.