

Dear Committee Members,

Attached please see my Witness Information Form for HB 118.

**I am strongly opposed to this bill for the following reasons:**

**The market for solar and wind is growing and represents an especially needed economic opportunity for rural Ohioans**, including landowners, school districts and political entities. Now is NOT the time to erect barriers! Our school district here in Champaign County is a case in point.

By artificially restricting energy choices, **this bill will drive up prices for all energy consumers**. (That's ALL of us!) You have yet to rescind HB6. Please stop acting as if our energy bills are your political ballgames!

**This bill is anti-business:** It will dramatically hinder businesses' abilities to exercise energy choice, manage energy costs, and control their future energy costs. WHY do this????

You want business investment in Ohio? I sure hope so! This bill will have the exact opposite effect....**How can any responsible business invest in a large-scale project, only to have it subjected to retroactive cancellation at the hands of a very small number of local voters**. Our Ohio Power Siting Board already has a strenuous process for overseeing the approval of such projects.

***I urge you to reject HB 118.***

Sincerely,

Marilyn Welker  
Champaign County