



**Sponsor Testimony - House Bill 299 – Consumer Utility Billing Transparency Act  
By Representative Michael J. Skindell  
Before the House Public Utilities Committee  
May 19, 2021**

Chairman Hoops, Vice Chairman Ray, Ranking Member Smith, and Members of the House Public Utilities Committee, I appreciate the opportunity to provide sponsor testimony on House Bill 299, called the “Consumer Utility Billing Transparency Act”.

The proposed legislation would enact Section 4933.30 of the Ohio Revised Code and require electric, natural gas and water utilities to provide itemized billing statements to customers. Distribution, transmission, generation, and supply charges must be itemized on customer bills as well as taxes and riders.

Knowing what is contained in the charges of a utility bill may help consumers save money. An itemized utility bill will also help customers check for errors and monitor their particular utility usage. In Ohio, basic charges such as distribution and transmission costs are itemized on customer bills, but a large number of riders are lumped in with distribution charges. In 2014, the General Assembly adopted Senate Bill 310, which required the disclosure to customers of the costs of the energy efficiency requirements, but it did not require a disclosure of the various riders. There are many riders and they are different for each utility. House Bill 299 will help consumers decipher their utility bills.

Chairman Hoops, Vice Chairman Ray, Ranking Member Smith, and Members of the House Public Utilities Committee, thank you for your consideration of House Bill 299. I would be happy to answer any of your questions.