



**Representative Sean Patrick Brennan
14th House District
Serving Parma, Parma Heights, and Cleveland's West Park**

SPONSOR TESTIMONY: HB 308

11-14-23

Chairman Kick, Vice-Chair Lear, Ranking Member Rogers, and members of the Ohio House of Representatives Standing Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. Due to misconceptions, nuclear power has often been a topic of “hot and energetic” debate, but I believe it holds great potential for our state and our planet and should unequivocally be considered green energy. HB 308 simply defines nuclear energy as green energy in Ohio and will send a message that Ohio is open for business when it comes to expanding our nuclear portfolio.

First and foremost, nuclear power is a low-carbon energy source. In a world increasingly concerned about the effects of climate change, it is crucial that we reduce our carbon emissions. Nuclear power plants produce electricity without emitting greenhouse gases, which significantly contributes to a cleaner environment. By embracing nuclear power, Ohio can take a major step towards achieving its carbon reduction goals and combating global warming.

Additionally, nuclear power offers a reliable and stable energy supply. Unlike some renewable sources, which we must concurrently develop, that depend on weather conditions, nuclear power plants can operate consistently, providing a stable source of electricity. This reliability is crucial for ensuring our homes, businesses, and industries have a consistent source of energy.

Furthermore, nuclear power generates a substantial amount of electricity in a small footprint. This means it requires less land compared to other energy sources.

Safety concerns have often been associated with nuclear power, but technological advancements and strict regulations have made modern nuclear power plants exceptionally safe. The industry has learned from past incidents and continuously improved safety measures, making nuclear power one of the safest forms of energy generation today.

By signaling to energy producers that Ohio is open to nuclear we can attract investment in this space. This investment will create jobs, allow Ohio to become more energy independent, and act as a catalyst for further economic development by attracting large energy users such as manufacturers and data centers.

In conclusion, by recognizing nuclear power as a clean energy source, Ohio can reduce its carbon footprint, ensure a reliable energy supply, maximize its land use for sustainable energy production, and bolster our economy. It is a crucial step in addressing climate change and securing our energy future. I urge our state to embrace nuclear power as part of our clean energy portfolio and take a bold step towards a cleaner, more sustainable future.

Committees:

State and Local Government
-Ranking Member
Pensions
Primary and Secondary Education
Public Utilities
Ways & Means

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I want to thank my colleague Representative Stein. It has been a pleasure working with him in my 11 months in the General Assembly. He is the Jedi master of energy policy knowledge and I appreciate him helping this Padawan who is eager to learn and do right by Ohio's consumers – our bosses – our constituents.

I urge you all to support HB 308 and thank you.

Sincerely,

Sean P. Brennan

Sean Patrick Brennan

