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Opponent Testimony by <mark>SARAH IAMMARINO</mark> on House Bill 308

Energy and Natural Resources Committee
December 12th, 2023

Chair Kick, Vice-Chair Lear, Ranking Member Rogers, and members of the Energy and Natural Resources Committee, thank you for the opportunity to submit opponent testimony in opposition to House Bill 308 (HB 308), a bill to include energy generated by nuclear reaction as green energy. My name is Sarah Iammarino, and I am a private citizen, Ohio resident and climate activist.

This bill would divert funding designated for truly green renewable energy such as solar and wind to expensive, outdated and dangerous nuclear power. I will never forget the nuclear disasters at Three Mile Island, Chernobyl, and Fukushima, all of which happened during my life. Extreme weather due to climate change and political unrest worldwide put us at increasing risk for more nuclear disasters like these.

Furthermore, commercial nuclear waste is an enormous problem because radioactivity lasts forever. The more we generate, the more we will burden generations to come. It is irresponsible for our generation to build more nuclear reactors when there are no good storage solutions.

Finally, I have not forgotten the scandal of HB 6 which broke my trust in our state government and utilities. This bill seems like another effort to prop up utilities by making it easier for them to claim that more of their power generation is green. Nuclear power is not green.

I would like to leave you with the lyrics from the song *Power* by the Doobie Brothers:
> *Just give me the warm power of the sun*
> *Give me the steady flow of the waterfall*
> *Give me the spirit of living things as they return to clay*
> *Just give me the restless power of the wind*
> *Give me the comforting glow of a wood fire*
> *But won't you take all your atomic poison power away.*

Thank you for the opportunity to provide opponent testimony for HB 308. I am happy to answer your questions.

Sincerely,

Sarah Iammarino