

House Public Utilities Committee

Proponent Testimony on HB197
Written Testimony of Brian Dicken
Vice President, Advocacy & Strategic Initiatives
Toledo Regional Chamber of Commerce

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Chair Stein, Vice Chair Robb Blasdel, Ranking Member Weinstein, and members of the House Public Utilities Committee, thank you for this opportunity to provide proponent testimony on behalf of HB197.

The Toledo region has been a leader in the research and manufacturing of solar modules. Dating back to the early 1980s and progressing through today, the Toledo region offers world-class research, development, and manufacturing of solar modules. Supporting community solar support Ohio innovation and jobs.

The development of community solar in Ohio supports calls by the business community to increase access to sustainable energy and enhance resiliency of the grid. As you know some have expressed concerns about grid reliability and increasing the availability of solar should be part of a balanced, all-of-the-above strategy to meet Ohio's energy needs. Companies large and small have expressed a desire to access locally sourced renewable energy solutions – HB197 can help make that a reality.

By increasing access to renewable energy options, you are meeting the demand and expectations of both the company and the workforce that Ohio is trying to attract. HB197 is good for business and even better for Ohio.

The Chamber looks forward to working with you to create and expand opportunities for solar development in Ohio. Thank you for your consideration of HB197 and I ask for your support.