

House Committees

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



Contact Information

77 S. High Street Columbus, OH 43215
<https://ohiohouse.gov/members/sean-p-brennan>
Rep14@ohiohouse.gov
614-466-3485

Representative Sean Patrick Brennan
14th House District

Sponsor Testimony

H.B. 308: Include energy generated by nuclear reaction as green energy

Chair Reineke, Vice Chair McColley, Ranking Member Smith, and members of the Senate Energy and Public Utilities Committee, thank you for allowing us to present HB 308 to you today.

Due to misconceptions, nuclear power has often been a topic of “*hot and energetic*” debate, but holds great potential for our state and our planet and should unequivocally be considered *green energy*. H.B. 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 that depend on weather conditions, which we must concurrently develop, nuclear power plants can operate consistently, providing a stable source of electricity for our homes, businesses, and industries.

Furthermore, nuclear power generates a substantial amount of electricity in a small footprint. This means it requires much 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 power 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.

For all of these reasons, I was very pleased that the bill received a very bipartisan vote of 87-10 in the Ohio House. Further, Lee Daher of the Indiana, Kentuck, and Ohio Carpenters Union, Dan Kuzman and Chris Erickson from the Utility Workers Union of America, Mike Knisely from the Ohio State Building and Construction Trades Council, Matt Szolosi from A.C.T. Ohio, and many others presented proponent testimony in the House.

It has been a distinct honor to work with my colleague and mentor Representative Stein. We would be very honored by your consideration of proponent testimony soon, Mr. Chairman, and, to all of the members of the committee, your ultimate support of the bill. Thank you.