

Testimony by Dr. Jason C. King on Senate Bill 247

Co-Chair, Climate Reality Project – Greater Cincinnati Chapter

Senate Energy and Public Utilities Committee

December 3, 2023

Chairman Reineke, Vice-Chair McColley, Ranking Member Smith, and members of the Senate Energy and Public Utilities Committee, thank you for the opportunity to submit proponent testimony on Senate Bill 247 (SB 247), a bill to establish a framework for the Community Solar Pilot Program (CSPP) and encourage community solar facility development in Ohio. My name is Dr. Jason King, and I am Co-Chair with Climate Reality Project – Greater Cincinnati Chapter.

The economic development of Brown Field sites represents a straightforward way to expand economic development across Ohio. Using these sites to create jobs and lower utility costs for Ohioans citizens is a win-win for our state. Bipartisan SB247 creates value for Ohio and tax revenue out of sites that currently sit idle. Putting solar energy on Brown Fields also reduces the need to use our rich farmlands for this purpose. I hope you will consider supporting this common-sense bipartisan bill.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide proponent testimony on behalf of Senate Bill 247. This bill represents a significant step forward in making renewable energy affordable, equitable, and accessible to all Ohioans while boosting economic and environmental outcomes. I am happy to answer any questions.

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