

Testimony by Michael Melampy on Senate Bill 247

*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.

Currently, individuals without their own solar panels have no way of benefitting from locally generated solar power. This bill would create a subscriber system to enable the sharing of that power, thereby creating more incentives for the installation of solar power. The bill also prevents utilities from charging discriminatory fees on locally produced power, further incentivizing the development of more solar. Ohio desperately needs this bill as we are falling well behind neighboring states in the development of renewable energy. If that does not change, we will be unable to attract industry that is committed to using renewable energy and we will fail to contribute what we should to the slowing of climate change.

If you have any questions about my testimony, I would be happy to respond to them.

Respectfully,



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