

## HB15

### Proponent Testimony by Dr. Ronald Warner on House Bill 15

Chairman Holmes, Vice-Chair Klopfenstein, Ranking Member Glassburn, and members of the House Energy Committee, I appreciate this opportunity to support House Bill 15, a bill that moves Ohio forward on energy generation and consumer choice.

I'm Dr. Ronald Warner, a retired scientist and happy owner of solar panels on my house. I live in a HOA that numbers about 600 houses, of which only 2 have solar panels. It's a small number of installations because the roofs need to have a good southern exposure to be effective, and because the HOA requires them to be visually hidden from any road. That latter requirement effectively forbids almost all residents from being able to access solar. I support HB15 because this bill would allow my community - and all of Ohio - to access solar energy. This bill, if passed, would allow people to save on electricity bills, provide a more robust Ohio electric grid, and increase Ohio electricity production. A state's accessibility to electricity is becoming a major determinate for locating the ever increasing data computer centers that AI (and the next generation of computers) require. Ohio has the land and could greatly benefit from the influx of good jobs and growth that these data centers would bring. HB15 would also allow responsible and restorative land use of brownfields, and likely result in additional income to rural farmers who would benefit from dual use solar/farming/grazing opportunities. And finally, this bill promoting solar energy would contribute to reducing carbon emissions and minimizing the onrushing challenges of global warming.

Thank you for this opportunity to support HB15.

Ron Warner