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**Testimony before the Ohio House Energy Committee April 9, 2025 on H.B. 158 The
Consumer Utility Bill Transparency Act**

Chair Homes, Vice Chair Klopfenstein, Ranking Member Glassburn, and members of the Ohio House Energy Committee, thank you for your time today and consideration of HB 158. I appreciate Rep. Brennan asking me to joint sponsor this legislation which I originally was a co-sponsor for.

Rep. Brennan has broken down the pieces of the bill, how it aligns with this committees goals, and the improvements it makes to our residents' lives. I simply would like to add I equate this concept to my 6 years as a County Auditor. I cannot tell you how often I would get asked why a tax bill increased, and then upon showing them their actual bill and breakdown available, the resident was still of course not happy, but knew what action they could take or at least who to complain to besides me.

I view the utility bill very similarly. A breakdown of expenses cannot hurt the resident. It can only help for the customer to see what the pieces of their monthly bill involve and then possibly what steps they should take- is it usage, is it the actual energy, it is the utility, is it other hidden fees, etc.

Worst case, the customer never even looks at their bill and this means nothing. Best case, we have residents who are empowered to take more of their monthly expenses into their own hands for decision making. Sounds good to me.

With that, I urge support for this legislation and we are happy to answer any questions the committee may have.