

Testimony of Marcy Taylor

**Concerned Citizen, Landowner: Earn Ease Farm in Brown and Clermont Counties
Voter from Indian Hill, Ohio**

Opposition Testimony for Ohio Senate Bill 320

November 29, 2016

Chairman Balderson, Vice Chairwoman Jones, Ranking Member Gentile, and Members of the Ohio Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee,

I have driven up from Cincinnati to voice my opposition to Senate Bill 320.

I am a longtime supporter of solar and renewable energy. Who doesn't like free, inexhaustible energy? I became a certified PV Installer recently so that I can install solar on our farms.

Adopting the freeze on Renewable Portfolio Standards slowed down the industry in Ohio and made it harder for homeowners like me to afford solar systems. My relatives in Massachusetts, Rhode Island and Connecticut all got help from their states to install solar. Looking over the rooftops of Honolulu from my daughter's apartment there is a sea of solar panels. I ask: Why should Ohio be left behind? Why should my energy choices be curtailed by SB320?

It is important to me that solar is clean energy. My family farms sit on the banks of the Ohio River, right between Zimmer and Bechjord power stations to the west and JM Stuart to the east. Whichever way the wind blows, we're in the path. And if fracking waste is allowed to be shipped down the Ohio, the barges will tie up in front of my property as they wait to lock through Meldahl Dam a mile away. Any decrease in fossil fuel reliance benefits our health.

I want to see more solar in Ohio. I want to see good jobs and renewable energy for my neighbors in Brown County.

I agree with Governor Kasich--please restore the Renewable Portfolio Standards and leave SB320 in committee.

Thank you for hearing me out. I am happy to answer any questions you might have.