

House Bill 192 Opposition Testimony
Tristan Rader

Chair and distinguished members of the committee. I write to you today in opposition to House Bill 192. This bill is designed to target communities who have made commitments to renewable energy and shut down clean energy and the renewable energy economy in Ohio. My position is very simple, let local communities decide where we get our power. This should be a local, community level decision, not made by the federal or state government.

Given the First Energy / HB 6 corruption scandal, it's not surprising that Ohioans believe that many Ohio public officials are more concerned about what the fossil fuel lobby wants than what Ohio families need. Personally, I'm concerned about the sustainability of our planet. I am concerned about what kind of a place we are leaving for future generations. I'm concerned about our air quality and our economy, where we are so far behind the rest of the world on renewable jobs.

I expect that many of you support home rule. That the state government should not be playing a role in picking winners and losers in the free market. And that some of you support job growth a diversified economy. Then why are you so wholeheartedly supporting a failing status quo?

This bill is a clear example of our state government picking what business it wants to succeed, at the expense of jobs, the free market, and our health and safety. This bill and others like it are taking our state in the wrong direction.

I am calling on you, our leaders, to be better. Rise above the utility corruption that plagues our state, and reject bills, like HB 192, that place utility interests over the interests of Ohioans.

Respectfully yours,

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