

I am writing to urge your committee to reject HB118. This type of legislation is bad for a number of reasons.

First, with the recent bribery scandal it would not be wise to pass another bill which would raise questions about the selective nature of this particular bill. What energy providers benefit from this piece of legislation? Are we going to give townships the right to veto new gas lines, new substations, fracking projects, drilling, or any other energy project? What answer will you have as to who wins when wind and solar are the only energy projects that the township has the right to reject?

Another consideration should be the development of new higher paying jobs for Ohio. Take a look at the new high paying jobs that have gone to Colorado because of wind energy enterprises. Look at any number of other states that have benefited from the manufacture and installation of solar panels. In a state that prides itself in bringing new technology such as composite materials, robotics manufacturing, etc. along with research joint efforts such as the collaboration of the University of Dayton and General Electric, it seems strange that we continually throw up roadblocks to wind and solar projects.

Ohio needs a highly trained workforce to fill the skilled jobs our business's need. How do we acquire and retain these workers when our state has big problems with air quality and water quality? Wind and solar will not pollute our air or endanger our water quality. These are the types of energy sources we should be competing to get!

The United States is facing major problems with the potential harmful impacts of a warming and changing climate. We need to start planning for our future by looking for ways to lower our dependency on fossil fuels.

To whom it may concern,

I hope you will stand in opposition to House Bill 118, as it would be detrimental for the future of renewable energy in Ohio. This bill would subject the generation of renewable energy to a type of approval no other energy generation requires. Having a robust review process already in place for state approval, adding township approval places an unnecessary burden on the future of developing renewable projects as well as those already in development, and set a troubling precedent for future development projects. We know that we need to take every action possible to reduce fossil fuel emissions and one way we can make a great impact is diversification of energy sources. With Ohio standing as the 6th largest carbon emitter in the country, we need to be accountable and take actions to rectify this. Allowing businesses and residents the choice to opt into renewables allows choice, control over costs and energy futures, as well as economic opportunity. House Bill 118 would artificially control the energy supply, driving up costs and stand in the way of creating green jobs in Ohio. This proposed legislation is bad for consumers, economic development, the environment and Ohio.

Thank you,  
Danielle Johnson