

OHIO SENATE
Committee on Energy and Public Utilities Minutes
March 23, 2021
134th General Assembly

The Senate Committee on Energy and Public Utilities was called to order pursuant to the meeting notice at approximately 2:14 p.m. in the Senate Finance Hearing Room of the Statehouse.

Attendance was taken. A quorum was present.

The minutes from the March 9, 2021 meeting were approved.

The Chair first called up PJM for a presentation.

The following testimony was provided:

Asim Haque, PJM (Written Testimony)

The Chair called up the Attorney General's Appointments:

Dorsey Hager Jr., Ohio Consumers' Counsel Governing Board.

Chairman Peterson moved that the appointment be recommended to the Committee on Rules and Reference. The motion was agreed to by a vote of 12-0.

The Chair called up S.B. 52 for its third hearing.

The following testimony was provided:

Brian Kinzelman, MKSK, Inc. - Opponent (Written Testimony)

The Chair paused testimony on S.B. 52, and called up Substitute House Bill 128 for its first hearing.

The following testimony was provided:

Representatives Jim Hoops and Dick Stein, Ohio House of Representatives - Sponsors (Written Testimony)

Robert Kelter, Environmental Law and Policy Center - Interested Party (Written testimony only)

Chris Zeigler, API Ohio - Interested Party (Written testimony only)

Rob Brundrett, The Ohio Manufacturers' Association - Interested Party (Written testimony only)

Charles Willoughby, Industrial Energy Users - Ohio - Proponent (Written testimony only)

Jason Smith, AARP - Ohio - Proponent (Written testimony only)

Alliance for Energy Choice - Proponent (Written testimony only)

Leo Almeida, The Nature Conservancy - Interested Party (Written testimony only)

Deana Dennis, Ceres - Interested Party (Written testimony only)

Andy Swaim, Ohio Chemistry Technology Council - Proponent (Written testimony only)

Stephanie Kromer, Ohio Chamber of Commerce - Proponent (Written testimony only)

Tyler Duvelius, Ohio Conservative Energy Forum - Interested Party (Written testimony only)

Retail Energy, Supply Association- Proponent (Written testimony only)

Chairman Peterson moved to amend with AM 0846 (restoration of solar energy credit prohibition). The motion was agreed to without objection.

Senator Williams moved to amend with AM 0917 (customer refunds for improper utility charges). Senator Schuring moved to table the amendment. The motion to table was agreed to by a vote of 9-1.

Senator Williams moved to amend with AM 0916 (consumer representative on PUCO). Senator Schuring moved to table the amendment. The motion to table was agreed to by a vote of 9-1.

Senator Williams moved to amend with AM 0878 (legacy generation resource cost recovery mechanism repeal). Senator Schuring moved to table the amendment. The motion to table was agreed to by a vote of 8-2.

Senator Williams moved to amend with AM 0877 (re-establishment of energy efficiency requirements). Senator Schuring moved to table the amendment. The motion to table was agreed to by a vote of 9-1.

Senator Williams moved to amend with AM 0795 (repeal of H.B. 6 of the 133rd General Assembly). Senator Schuring moved to table the amendment. The motion to table was agreed to by a vote of 9-1.

Senator Williams moved to amend with AM 0794 (renewable energy standards). Senator Schuring moved to table the amendment. The motion to table was agreed to by a vote of 9-1.

Senator Schuring moved that Substitute House Bill 128 be favorably reported to the Committee on Rules and Reference. The motion was agreed to by a vote of 12-0.

The Chair resumed testimony on S.B. 52.

The following testimony was provided:

Jason Rafeld, Utility Scale Solar Energy Coalition - Opponent (Written testimony)
Jared Wren, Hecate Energy - Opponent (Written testimony)
Mike Volpe, Utility Scale Solar Energy Coalition - Opponent (Written testimony)
Alex Fischer, Columbus Partnership - Opponent (Written testimony)
Chad Eisler, Madison-Plains Local School District - Opponent (Written testimony)
Jeff Reinkemeyer, Avangrid Renewables - Opponent (Written testimony)
Jim Erford, Mayor of Miller City - Opponent (Written testimony)
Jacki Verhoff, Herself - Opponent (Written testimony)
David Kell, Madison County Chamber of Commerce, Madison County Future, Inc. - Opponent (Written testimony)
Gary Baldosser, Himself - Opponent (Written testimony)
Kreg Culler, Himself - Opponent (Written testimony)
Carolyn Gibeaut, Herself - Opponent (Written testimony)
Michael and Annette Houck, Themselves - Opponent (Written testimony)
Jane Sweet, Herself - Opponent (Written testimony)
Sarah Knudsen, Herself - Opponent (Written testimony)
Steven Crum, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers - Opponent (Written testimony)
Mikayla Pieper, Paulding Chamber of Commerce - Opponent (Written testimony)
Michael Lutmer, Himself - Opponent (Written testimony)
Ann Fry, Herself - Opponent (Written testimony)
Rolland Wolfrum, Himself - Opponent (Written testimony)
Stephanie Kromer, Ohio Chamber of Commerce - Opponent (Written testimony)
Squire Galbreath, Themselves - Opponent (Written testimony)

Tony Logan, Himself - Opponent (Written testimony)
James Coffelt, Himself - Opponent (Written testimony)
John Stockmeister, Himself - Opponent (Written testimony)
Kenny McDonald, One Columbus - Opponent (Written testimony only)
Todd Mustain, Madison-Plains Local School District - Opponent (Written testimony only)
Nathan Strum, GROW Licking County - Opponent (Written testimony only)
Nancy Grandillo, Herself - Opponent (Written testimony only)
Russell Adams, Himself - Opponent (Written testimony only)
Ron Fry, Himself - Opponent (Written testimony only)
Betsy Engelking, National Grid Renewables - Opponent (Written testimony only)
Sarah Carpenter, Herself - Opponent (Written testimony only)
Jane Sweet, Herself - Opponent (Written testimony)
Kevin Summers, Himself - Opponent (Written testimony only)
Greg Pace, Himself - Opponent (Written testimony only)
Dave Greulich, Himself - Opponent (Written testimony only)
Marcia Eason, Herself - Opponent (Written testimony only)
Richard Turner, Himself - Opponent (Written testimony only)
Robert Kloos, Himself - Opponent (Written testimony only)
Rick Buehner, Himself - Opponent (Written testimony only)
Roberta Penn, Herself - Opponent (Written testimony only)
Richard Spracklen, Himself - Opponent (Written testimony only)
Richard Giffen, Himself - Opponent (Written testimony only)
Richard Bradley, Himself - Opponent (Written testimony only)
T. Rae Neal, Themselves - Opponent (Written testimony only)
Roy Larick, Himself - Opponent (Written testimony only)
Rachael Belz, Ohio Consumers Power Alliance - Opponent (Written testimony only)
Peter Cary, Himself - Opponent (Written testimony only)
Patrick O'Connor, Himself - Opponent (Written testimony only)
Russell Buckbee, Himself - Opponent (Written testimony only)
Patricia Marida, Herself - Opponent (Written testimony only)
Samuel Kane, Himself - Opponent (Written testimony only)
Rob Brundrett, The Ohio Manufacturers' Association - Opponent (Written testimony only)
Samuel Borst, Himself - Opponent (Written testimony only)
Sandra Cobb, Herself - Opponent (Written testimony only)
Miranda Leppla, Ohio Environmental Council Action Fund - Opponent (Written testimony only)
Sarah Sheehan, Amazon - Opponent (Written testimony only)
Nicholas Dailey, Himself - Opponent (Written testimony only)
Shanelle Montana, Lightsource BP - Opponent (Written testimony only)
Nancy Flinchbaugh, Herself - Opponent (Written testimony only)
Nancy Dollard, Herself - Opponent (Written testimony only)
Nancy Dawley, Herself - Opponent (Written testimony only)
Stephen Ploetz, Himself - Opponent (Written testimony only)
Steve Schlather, Himself - Opponent (Written testimony only)
Michael McLean, Ohio Business Roundtable - Opponent (Written testimony only)
Michael Wortham, BP - Opponent (Written testimony only)
Suelyn Shupe, Herself - Opponent (Written testimony only)
Michael Wildermuth, Himself - Opponent (Written testimony only)
Michael Deffet, Himself - Opponent (Written testimony only)
Melissa English, Ohio Citizen Action - Opponent (Written testimony only)
Michael Parkinson, Himself - Opponent (Written testimony only)
Susan Munroe, Chambers for Innovation & Clean Energy - Opponent (Written testimony only)
Matt Pitstick, Himself - Opponent (Written testimony only)

Marnie Urso, Audubon Great Lakes - Opponent (Written testimony only)
Susan Namei, Herself - Opponent (Written testimony only)
Susan Schmidt, Herself - Opponent (Written testimony only)
Marketa Anderson, Herself - Opponent (Written testimony only)
Ellen Christian, Herself - Opponent (Written testimony only)
Mark Walter, Savion, LLC - Opponent (Written testimony only)
Mark Crowe, Crowe Farms and Crowe Financial Group - Opponent (Written testimony only)
Tim Copsey, Paulding County Economic Development Inc. - Opponent (Written testimony only)
Mark Carpenter, Himself - Opponent (Written testimony only)
Tim Kreps, Himself - Opponent (Written testimony only)
Mark Bonifas, Hull and Associates, LLC - Opponent (Written testimony only)
Marilyn Welker, Herself - Opponent (Written testimony only)
Tim Kraus, Himself - Opponent (Written testimony only)
Margaret Branstrator, Herself - Opponent (Written testimony only)
Bruce Burcat, Mid-Atlantic Renewable Energy Coalition - Opponent (Written testimony only)
Marcie Groesbeck, Herself - Opponent (Written testimony only)
Tom & Laura Bindernagel, Themselves - Opponent (Written testimony only)
Lukas Darling, Himself - Opponent (Written testimony only)
Lois Dodderer, Herself - Opponent (Written testimony only)
Tony Hall, Himself - Opponent (Written testimony only)
Lis Regula, Herself - Opponent (Written testimony only)
Linda Sekura, Herself - Opponent (Written testimony only)
Leo Almeida, The Nature Conservancy - Opponent (Written testimony only)
Laura Rushton, Herself - Opponent (Written testimony only)
Travis Irvine, Libertarian Party of Ohio - Opponent (Written testimony only)
Tyler Duvelius, Ohio Conservative Energy Forum - Opponent (Written testimony only)
Vickie Askins, Ohio Environmental Stewardship Alliance - Opponent (Written testimony only)
Laura Apgar, Herself - Opponent (Written testimony only)
Kathryn Hanratty, Herself - Opponent (Written testimony only)
Karen Eliot, Herself - Opponent (Written testimony only)
Karen Auer, Herself - Opponent (Written testimony only)
Julie Jaap, Herself - Opponent (Written testimony only)
Juli Douglass-Gillespie, Herself - Opponent (Written testimony only)
Josh Hupp, Himself - Opponent (Written testimony only)
Joseph Dible, Himself - Opponent (Written testimony only)
Joseph Blubaugh, Himself - Opponent (Written testimony only)
John Kyle, Himself - Opponent (Written testimony only)
Joe Recker, Himself - Opponent (Written testimony only)
Joseph DeMare, Wood County Green Party - Opponent (Written testimony only)
Jim Clever, Himself - Opponent (Written testimony only)
Jennifer Karches, Herself - Opponent (Written testimony only)
Jeffrey Levine, Engie North America, Inc. - Opponent (Written testimony only)
Jay Warmke, Zane State College; Electronic Technicians Association - Opponent (Written testimony only)
James A. and Blenda James, Themselves - Opponent (Written testimony only)
Jeff Heyob, Himself - Opponent (Written testimony only)
Kaley Bangston, Invenergy Renewables, LLC. - Opponent (Written testimony only)
Harold Dreibelbis, Himself - Opponent (Written testimony only)
Greg Coleridge, Himself - Opponent (Written testimony only)
Jane Harf, Green Energy Ohio - Opponent (Written testimony only)
Dr. Gloria Tavera, Herself - Opponent (Written testimony only)
Gilbert Michaud, Himself - Opponent (Written testimony only)

George Hamilton, Himself - Opponent (Written testimony only)
Logan Stephens, Geenex Solar, LLC - Opponent (Written testimony only)
Everett Lacy, Himself - Opponent (Written testimony only)
Eric Homier, Himself - Opponent (Written testimony only)
Madaline Hanson, EDP Renewables North America - Opponent (Written testimony only)
Adam Sokolski, EDF Renewables - Opponent (Written testimony only)
Dylan Stickney, Vesper Energy - Opponent (Written testimony only)
Dr. Jacquelynn Savoca, Herself - Opponent (Written testimony only)
Deborah Continenza, Herself - Opponent (Written testimony only)
Deana Dennis, Ceres - Opponent (Written testimony only)
Dave Simons, Sierra Club - Ohio Chapter - Opponent (Written testimony only)
David Prochazka, Himself - Opponent (Written testimony only)
David Giffen, Himself - Opponent (Written testimony only)
David Trout, Himself - Opponent (Written testimony only)
Daryl Davis, Cuyahoga County Green Party - Opponent (Written testimony only)
Danielle Johnson, Herself - Opponent (Written testimony only)
Dan Doepker, Himself - Opponent (Written testimony only)
Craig Sundstrom, RWE Renewables Americas, LLC - Opponent (Written testimony only)
Cathy Becker, Simply Living and Ohio Sustainable Business Council - Opponent (Written testimony only)
Connie Schoultheis, Herself - Opponent (Written testimony only)
Constance Sancetta, Herself - Opponent (Written testimony only)
Connie Kline, Herself - Opponent (Written testimony only)
Chris Pekoc, Himself - Opponent (Written testimony only)
Roger Kepford, Himself - Opponent (Written testimony only)
Chet Straley, Himself - Opponent (Written testimony only)
Charles Michelson Jr., Himself - Opponent (Written testimony only)
Brian Schmitz, Himself - Opponent (Written testimony only)
Bob Young, Harrison Twp. Trustee - Opponent (Written testimony only)
Betty Halberstadt, Herself - Opponent (Written testimony only)
Benjamin Lachman, Nice Mohawk Limited - Opponent (Written testimony only)
Dr. Craig and Dr. Becky Strafford, Themselves - Opponent (Written testimony only)
Becky Campbell, First Solar - Opponent (Written testimony only)
Barbara Davidson, Herself - Opponent (Written testimony only)
Barbara Cicalese, Herself - Opponent (Written testimony only)
Ariel Miller, Episcopal Diocese of Southern Ohio Creation Care and Environmental Justice Task Force - Opponent (Written testimony only)
Rachael Estes, Apex Clean Energy - Opponent (Written testimony only)
Angie Wright, Herself - Opponent (Written testimony only)
Andrew Groh, Himself - Opponent (Written testimony only)
Andrew Gohn, American Clean Power - Opponent (Written testimony only)
Michael and Amy Betz, Themselves - Opponent (Written testimony only)
Alexa Ross, Herself - Opponent (Written testimony only)
Alan Heyob, Himself - Opponent (Written testimony only)
Tom Froehle, American Electric Power - Opponent (Written testimony only)

The committee adjourned at approximately 6:54 p.m.

Bob Peterson, Chair