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*Advocating for Life, Faith, and Freedom in the Public Square*

Proponent Testimony on House Bill 114  
The Ohio Senate  
Energy and Natural Resources Committee

Chris Long  
President of Ohio Christian Alliance

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I would like to begin by thanking Chairman Balderson and members of the Energy and Natural Resources Committee for hearing our testimony today in support of HB 114. My name is Chris Long. I am the president of the Ohio Christian Alliance, a public policy/voter education organization.

The Ohio Christian Alliance supports H.B. 114, the Revise Energy Efficiency Provisions Bill. This legislation is a common-sense approach for energy policy for the State of Ohio. Affordable energy is a desirable goal for the Ohio utility customer. With today's rising cost of living it is important to address an energy policy for Ohio utility customers that provides a cost-stable future for the utility industry.

Families, seniors, and those on fixed incomes pay the increased cost that experimental renewable energy projects require. H.B. 114 addresses the cost of renewables mandates on the utility customer. The push for renewables has come with mandates (subsidies) for wind and solar. The taxpayer ends up carrying an extra burden because of this. First, they pay higher utility costs. Then they also are

burdened with the opaque costs of a wide range of subsidies like the Federal Production Tax Credit.

The wind and solar energy experiment is being carried on the backs of utility customers. Those hit hardest are single mothers, families, and seniors. Our belief is that if these renewables are to enter the energy grid, they must do so based on their own merits of production, not at the expense of the taxpayer and utility customer.

The Buckeye Institute stated in its recent policy report on the impact of renewables, “As the government requires more and more electricity to be generated from expensive renewable sources, costs for electricity providers will continue to rise. Those higher costs will be passed along to employers, manufacturers, and consumers, raising the prices for electricity and manufactured goods. Ultimately, the economic burdens imposed by the RPS will reduce job opportunities and shrink Ohio’s gross domestic product (GDP) as companies and families are forced to pay higher prices for energy over the next decade.” Therefore, the Ohio Christian Alliance urges the Energy and Natural Resources Committee to pass H.B. 114.

Thank you, Chairman Balderson, and members of the committee. I will be happy to answer any questions that you may have at this time.