

**SENATE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMITTEE,
OPPONENT TESTIMONY, SENATE BILL 128**

**DAVID COREY, EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT
BOWLING CENTERS ASSOCIATION OF OHIO
THURSDAY, JUNE 1, 2017**

Chairman Beagle, Vice Chairman LaRose, Ranking Member Williams and members of the Ohio Senate Public Utilities Committee, I am David Corey and I am the Executive Vice President of Bowling Centers Association of Ohio. Thank you for the opportunity today to express BCAO's opposition to Senate Bill 128.

Bowling Center Association of Ohio is a trade association that represents businesses across Ohio. Our members employ thousands of Ohioans and pay millions in local and state tax revenue each year. Our vision as an association is to enhance the profitability of our members and to ensure a healthy future for the sport of bowling in Ohio.

I am here today to talk about the direct adverse impact Senate Bill 128 would have on a large percentage of our members, and the potential adverse impact it could have on the remainder of our members across the state.

Many of our members operate in FirstEnergy's service territory, and would be subject to the electric rate increase that Senate Bill 128 would impose. The cost of electricity is already a significant expense for our members. For companies operating on very small margins, like many of our members, a five percent increase in electricity rates could have a devastating impact. Accordingly, it could impact decisions about hiring and ability to make future investments in Ohio.

I don't claim to be an expert on electric generation, but from what I've read and the research I've done, I understand that if Senate Bill 128 passes, it could drive private investment in lower cost electric generation out of the state. And I understand that could cause electric rates to rise across the state, even in areas outside of FirstEnergy's territory. Accordingly, I'm here today to speak on behalf of all of our members, not just those who are FirstEnergy's customers.

BCAO respectfully asks that this committee please consider the harm this bill could have to our members and to thousands of other Ohio businesses, who cannot afford to have their electric rates increased to pay a special fee to FirstEnergy on top of their monthly bills. And we ask you to please reject Senate Bill 128.

Thank you.