

Testimony for repeal of HB 6

Susan Carlson

As a citizen greatly concerned about climate change and the protection of our environment for future generations, I was appalled when I heard the news about the tactics and corruption used to pass HB6. While multiple bills to repeal House Bill 6 have been introduced in the House Select Committee on Energy Policy and Oversight, they have held no public hearings and have announced they will not meet again until further notice. They have taken no action to repeal House Bill 6. I have communicated my concerns to the committee Chair, Rep. Hoops, and his office three times to express my concern and ask his stance on the repeal of this bill since the news broke to the public. I have received no response. While I always wish to assume the best intent in our legislators, it seems the only explanation for this gaping hole in response is that the leadership of this committee is in favor of holding back the repeal of this corrupt piece of legislation. Ohio lawmakers need to demonstrate that the Statehouse is not for sale and repeal House Bill 6 now.

As for my concerns about our environment and the one my grandchildren will live in, HB 6 is NOT a clean energy bill. It wiped out provisions for renewable energy and energy efficiency investment in Ohio. Legislators who voted to bailout some of the region's dirtiest coal plants were not interested in reducing carbon emissions with their vote. Prior to COVID-19, over 114,000 Ohioans worked in clean energy. There are jobs to be had in clean energy programs and the potential remains to draft new legislation that opens up the field of alternative energy sources. But we cannot do this until HB 6 is repealed. Representative Sedrick Denson, the Representative of my district, has come out forcefully for repeal of this bill, but he can't do this alone. I call upon the House Select Committee on Energy Policy and Oversight to schedule and hold hearings that give us Ohio citizens the opportunity to make our voices heard. Ohioans were and are overwhelmingly opposed to HB. Please stop protecting this morally unjust piece of legislation and start the process of repeal now! Thank you,

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