

Testimony on HB 33, An Act to Establish Operating Appropriations for Fiscal Years 2024-2025

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Chair Dolan, Vice Chair Cirino, Ranking Member Sykes and members of the Senate Finance Committee:

I am offering testimony against the inclusion of HB 434 in the budget bill, HB 33. HB 434 is a resurrection of HB 771 and its successor HB 104. Both bills died in previous legislative sessions. HB 434 is no better and likely worse than its predecessors. I oppose the inclusion of HB 434 creating a Nuclear Development Authority for the following reasons:

(1) HB 434 improperly and illegally steers financial rewards to a single company, *eGeneration*. This company has been unable to secure funding from Wall Street for its dangerous proposals, and now, once again, comes to Ohio's taxpayers to foot the bill.

(2) The legislation favors nuclear reprocessing technology that has failed to yield results and which has only created large volumes of highly toxic nuclear waste. With the creation of the Nuclear Development Authority taxpayers would be on the hook to pay for the cleanup.

(3) It is increasingly clear that even standard established nuclear technology has left a trail of uneven results, large volumes of toxic waste and perhaps most important unpredictable poor financial performance in the energy utility industry. The scandal of HB 6 shows that energy companies are relying on taxpayers to underwrite the risks they aren't willing to take on themselves.

The predecessors of HB 434 were bad ideas, HB 434 is a bad idea and now including it in HB 33 is no better. I oppose HB 33 unless the creation of a Nuclear Development Authority is eliminated.