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Testimony on SB 310
ENERGY REDUCTION REQUIREMENTS
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Every year the University of Cincinnati saves \$4.5 million of taxpayers money using the tools provided in Ohio's clean energy law. SB310 seeks to destroy those tools.

This legislation will be costly to ordinary Ohioans; yet it contains a few useful features.

The League of Women Voters of Ohio is pleased to endorse the new requirement that each consumer be notified, on his electric bill, how much compliance with the law is costing him. This requirement is consistent with our long-standing support of the citizen's right to know.

We have also been concerned for several years that the advanced-energy requirement of the existing law is not realistic and agree that the Energy Mandate Study Committee should examine how it can be modified.

Reiterating our right-to-know position, we endorse formation of the Study Committee. However, we urge that the committee be composed of experts on all aspects of the problem, as was done in Florida.

If the bill were confined to those three items, it would a positive advance. But the remainder of the bill is extremely troubling. According to sponsor testimony the purpose of SB310 is "to benefit one, and only one group, every day Ohioans." Which is as it should be. Every day Ohioans are burdened by large electricity bills, which are constantly rising. But they can be assured that Ohio's clean energy law is not at the heart of the problem. According to the Columbus Dispatch on April 24, 2014, Ohioans have SAVED over \$1 billion because of the law. Estimates of the cost to the average household vary from \$2 (SB310 opponents) to \$4 per month (SB310 proponents).

But arguing over numbers clouds the real issue; even if the skeptics were right, over 95 percent of the electricity bill of every day Ohioans is due to something other than renewable energy or energy efficiency. Even if the skeptics were right three-quarters of residential rate increases over the past five years are due to something other than renewable energy or energy efficiency The proposed freeze is puzzling to us in this light. It prejudices the study committee report, which should evaluate ALL of the costs that have led to higher consumer electric rates. Again, the issue

is citizens' right-to-know. We see no good reason for the freeze in existing requirements prior to the committee report being issued.

Thank you for your attention. I will be happy to answer any questions.