

Written Testimony Only – Opponent to SB 24

Dear Senate Utilities Committee

My name is Anthony Schmidt. I am originally from Hays and I live in Lawrence. I'm a lifetime Kansan and my wife and I have four children.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify. I would like to submit my objection to SB 24 which would prohibit cities from enacting laws determining their energy future.

As I understand it, this action is being considered as a protection for the fossil fuel industry. In this era of climate change I cannot imagine a more inappropriate endeavor. Many of us have children and grandchildren who will have to deal with the poor decisions their forebearers impose upon them. We can't allow it to be too late. Burning fossil fuel is melting the ice cap, the glaciers and the permafrost in our northern and high elevation locales. It is acidifying the ocean. What are you thinking?

If cities wish to make renewable energy a requirement for "new" construction, (which is something they should be doing), then their constituent elected officials should have the ability to do so.

If any representative in the statehouse has fossil fuel ties, they should excuse themselves from this self-interested vote and action. This is a very dark, divisive and inappropriate for these times. Do you think the majority of young people would approve of this?

Thank you.

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