

## Opponent Testimony for Senate Bill 24 – The Energy Choice Act

Dear Senators:

My name is Michael Wolfe and I am an organizer with Sunrise Movement Kansas City. I am strongly urging you to oppose Senate Bill 24. This bill is anti-democratic. It was written by the gas industry, who already has an outsized influence in our politics, to overturn the local, popular efforts of the people. Utilities say this will prevent customers from facing discrimination toward using a specific utility by a municipality, but really this just gives utilities an excuse to continue their publicly sanctioned monopolies and avoid accountability.

Local municipalities face a broad array of challenges, including air pollution and economic devastation from job losses. This bill would hamper local governments from making their own decisions about switching to renewable energy, something that would both decrease air pollution and create tons of new jobs. Kansans deserve the opportunity to set their own energy standards. They did not submit this bill, the gas industry did. That's not democracy and that's certainly not a choice. If you actually value competition and consumer choice, you will oppose this bill and make it so that renewable energy can get out from under the stranglehold fossil fuel companies have on our economy.

Senate Bill 24 is a job killer and dangerous. It must be opposed at all costs.

**Michael Wolfe**

he/him/his

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