



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

MICHIGAN

EDUCATING AND ADVOCATING FOR RESPONSIBLE GOVERNMENT

April 26, 2016

Senate Committee on Energy and Technology
P.O. Box 30036
Lansing, MI 48909-7536

Dear Members of the Senate Committee on Energy and Technology,

The League of Women Voters of Michigan adopted a position in the early 70's in support of energy conservation and renewable energy sources. We support "the use of various energy sources, with an emphasis on conserving energy and using energy efficient technologies, a predominate reliance on renewable resources, and action by government to encourage the use of renewable resources and energy conservation through financial incentives, rate-setting policies and mandatory standards."

Previous renewable energy mandates have been a success. Michigan easily reached established targets. Renewable energy industries flourished. The absence of a new energy plan is stagnating growth in the renewable energy sector. We are closing old, dirty, inefficient plants. Increased renewable energy standards will protect ratepayers from higher costs of building new power plants and protect our health from reliance on fossil fuels.

The League does not support Senate Bill 437 and 438 because they still eliminate mandatory standards for renewable energy. Utility companies and citizens agree that an energy mix that is cleaner, reliable and affordable is our desired goal. We call on our government to lead this effort with achievable standards. They worked and are now leveling off. Set a course that grows clean, renewable energy sources and energy conservation.

Thank you for the opportunity to contribute to this deliberation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Judith Karandjeff'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial 'J'.

Judith Karandjeff, President
League of Women Voters of Michigan