

MINUTES OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND TECHNOLOGY

Tuesday, March 18, 2014 8:30 a.m. Room 519 House Office Building, Lansing

Representative Nesbitt, Chair, called the meeting to order.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Representatives Nesbitt, Shirkey, Farrington, Franz, Jacobsen, Outman, Pettalia, Price, Schmidt, Zorn, Graves, Lauwers, Howrylak, Stallworth, Hobbs, Nathan, LaVoy, Lane, Brunner, Yanez, Lamonte, Phelps.

Representative Franz made a motion to adopt the minutes of the meeting of March 11, 2014. No objections being offered, the minutes were accepted as presented.

The Chair laid the following bill before the Committee.

HB 5184 (Shirkey) Public utilities; electric utilities; cap on electric choice; modify, require certain utilities to file a plan with the public service commission, and require the purchase of alternative electric suppliers' receivables.

Representative Shirkey reviewed the provisions of HB 5184 with the Committee. The following topics were included in his presentation: the status quo is not an option; the problem; wholesale and retail prices; the solution-HB 5184; what HB 5184 does; HB 5184 specifics (affordability, reliability, protecting our incumbent utilities, creating Michigan jobs, sustainability); cost-saving innovations; and where do we go from here.

The following individuals also spoke to the Committee regarding HB 5184:

Bill Zehnder, representing The Bavarian Inn, in support

Rick Coy, representing ABATE, in support

Duane Hagen, representing MPI Research, in support

David Vite, representing the Illinois Retail Merchants Association, in support

Dr. Phil O'Conner, representing Proactive Strategies, in support

Greg Gordon, representing the International Strategy and Investment Group, in opposition

Bob Manning, representing Bob Manning Associates, in opposition

Patti Poppe, representing Consumers Energy, in opposition

The following individuals submitted cards in opposition to HB 5184:

Jim Weeks, representing the Michigan Municipal Electric Association

Jason Geer, representing the Michigan Chamber of Commerce
Kent Wood, representing the Traverse City Area Chamber of Commerce and the
Northern Michigan Chamber Alliance
Brad Williams, representing the Detroit Regional Chamber
Susan Shlaybaugh, representing the Michigan Electric Cooperative Association
Tracy Oberleiter, representing the Monroe County Economic Development Corporation
Suzanne Weitzel, representing Monroe County Community College
John Kauffman, representing the Monroe County Chamber of Commerce

The following individuals submitted cards in support of HB 5184:

Bill Maynard, representing Family Dollar
Jennifer Sypniew, representing the Thetford Corporation
Andrew Vermeesch, representing Michigan Farm Bureau (supports efforts to eliminate
10% cap)
Brian Bruderisle, representing the Michigan Association of Non-Public Schools
Thomas Langan, representing the Langan Bowling Centers
Nick Wagner, representing Printing Industries of Michigan
Jeff Mitchell, representing Suburban Ice Arenas
George Poulus, representing Boston Market
Don Valley, representing Hank Graff Chevrolet
Thomas Morren, representing Forest City Enterprises
Gerald Guenthardt, representing Little River Casino Resort
Scott Goldstein, representing the YMCA of Lansing
John Schultz of Bingham Farms, Michigan
Kim Laverty, representing Enercom Energy
Gabe Wing, representing Herman Miller, Inc.
Linda Gobler, representing the Michigan Grocers Association
Robert Spangler, representing McDonald's Restaurant Owners/Operators
Jeff Mitchell, representing Suburban Sports Services
Jeremiah Mankopf, representing Severstal North America
Jennifer Steiner-Burner, representing Marathon Petroleum Company, LP
Jake Hamlin, representing Cargill
Alexander J. Bakem, representing A. J. Bakem Consulting
Raj Bazaj, representing Integrys Energy Services, Inc.
Bill Lievense, representing the Michigan Chemistry Council
Mike Lenahan, representing the Foundry Association of Michigan
Tom Maher, representing CEO Energy
Paul Martel, representing CFI Medical Solutions
James R. Williams, representing Enercom, Inc.

Ronald Sweat, representing the Monroe County Building Development Center, submitted a card for HB 5184 but did not indicate a position.

Chair Nesbitt stated that the Committee would stand at ease, the time being 10:28 a.m.

Chair Nesbitt reconvened the meeting at 4:09 p.m.

Representative Shirkey, Dr. Phil O'Conner, David Vite and Rick Coy were present to answer questions and provide additional information for Committee members.

Representative Shirkey assumed the Chair, the time being 5:28 p.m.

Representative Nesbitt returned to the Chair, the time being 5:35 p.m.

Patti Poppe, Ron Rasmussen and Tim Sparks, from Consumers Energy, answered questions and provided additional information for Committee members.

Subsequent to discussion, Chair Nesbitt declared the meeting adjourned, the time being 6:10 p.m.

Representative Aric Nesbitt, Chair

Catherine Petroskey, Committee Clerk (517) 373-8538