



DATE: January 21, 2021

TO: Senate Committee on Utilities

ATTN: Chairman Mike Thompson and Members of the Committee

FROM: Kelly, Gilbert, Executive Director, Metropolitan Energy Center
Emily Wolfe, Program Coordinator, Metropolitan Energy Center

RE: Testimony on Senate Bill 24

We are with Metropolitan Energy Center (MEC), a nonprofit organization with a 37-year history of transforming energy use in the building and transportation sectors in the Kansas City region and beyond. We wish to offer testimony regarding SB 24 which prohibits municipalities from imposing restrictions on customers' use of energy based upon source of energy.

MEC opposes SB 24 because it takes away the ability of local governments to enact policies and programs that meet the specific needs of their communities. Kansas' path to statehood was long, bloody, and based on the beliefs of its settlers. Kansas continued its tradition of honoring the voices of its residents when voters granted cities constitutional Home Rule in 1960 – providing local municipalities the opportunity to self-govern. Passing SB 24 is a slippery slope to future legislation that not only silences the voices of local residents and leaders, but will continue to widen the urban-rural divide.

We thank you for the invaluable work you do for our state, especially during this extraordinary time, and for the opportunity to provide testimony regarding SB 24. We ask that you do not pass SB 24.

Please do not hesitate to reach out to us if you have questions or need additional information.

Sincerely,

Kelly Gilbert
[Executive Director | Clean Cities Coordinator | 816-812-9772 | Kelly@MetroEnergy.org](#)

Emily Wolfe
[Program Coordinator | 913-548-8692 | emily@metroenergy.org](#)