



TO: The Honorable Members of the PA House Environmental & Natural Resources Protection Committee

FROM: Amy Brinton, Director, Government Affairs

DATE: June 2, 2025

RE: **PA Chamber memo: Oppose H.B. 501 (PRESS)**

On behalf of the Pennsylvania Chamber of Business and Industry, the largest, broad-based business advocacy organization in the Commonwealth, representing nearly 10,000 member companies of all sizes from across all commercial and industrial sectors, I write to urge you to **oppose House Bill 501**, known as the Pennsylvania Reliable Energy Sustainability Standards Act (PRESS), which is scheduled for a Committee vote today.

House Bill 501 seeks to update and expand the Alternative Energy Portfolio Standards Act (AEPS) framework. While we certainly appreciate the intent of the bill and support efforts to diversify Pennsylvania's energy portfolio, we are concerned that the mandates in the bill could hinder the Commonwealth's position as a national and global energy leader and create challenges to energy affordability and reliability, both of which are critical to our economic competitiveness.

Rapidly increasing renewable energy targets without ensuring reliable backup generation risks destabilizing the grid, especially during periods of peak demand or extreme weather. Intermittent sources like wind and solar must be integrated with firm, dispatchable generation to maintain grid balance and prevent service disruptions. House Bill 501, as currently written, lacks sufficient provisions for such integration.

Additionally, the bill does not adequately address challenges associated with scaling up renewable infrastructure. Deployment of this infrastructure to meet targets as proposed in the legislation will require massive investments in transmission, storage, and generation capacity. These are all costs that would almost certainly be passed on to ratepayers.

Pennsylvania stands at a critical crossroads in shaping both our own energy future and the nation's energy future. As the demand for electricity continues to grow and the transition away from certain thermal energy sources accelerates, it is imperative that our grid remains reliable, affordable, and capable of supporting the diverse industries that drive our economy. A comprehensive, all-of-the-above energy strategy that maximizes the use of Pennsylvania's reliable thermal baseload sources while balancing additional renewable energy sources is essential for maintaining grid stability and fostering long-term economic growth.

For these reasons, we respectfully urge the Committee to **oppose HB 501 in its current form**.

For any questions, please contact Amy Brinton, Director of Government Affairs, at abrinton@pachamber.org or 717-720-5565.

[Click here](#) to check the PA Chamber Legislative Scorecard.

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