

TESTIMONY ON WIND TURBINE HEALTH IMPACT BILLS – July 9, 2013

My name is Carol Platenik. I am a Registered Nurse and live in Brimfield MA. I am here to testify in support of **House Bill 2048** filed by Representative Peake and **House Bill 2049** filed by Representative Smola.

House Bill 2048 Resolves to Establish a Commission to Study the Health Impacts from Wind Turbines. This legislation has a more specific mandate to investigate and study the incidence and impacts in the Commonwealth of adverse health effects from wind turbines. House Bill 2049 is an Act to Protect the Health of Citizens of the Commonwealth. As a health professional, I realize there is nothing more important than protecting the health of our population. The first rule should be “do no harm”. The effects of IWT on the health of our citizens should be fully investigated by a varied, expert, qualified panel of members.

The make-up of the Commission should include: three members of the public who live within 5,000 feet of an operating wind turbine. A new peer reviewed study (Nissenbaum et. al ) found evidence of sleep disruption, daytime sleepiness, and impaired mental health in people located within approximately 5,000 feet of a wind turbine.

The Commission should also include: legislators appointed by their leadership rather than by the Governor, state officials in health related fields ( Commissioner of Public Health, Commissioner of health care finance and policy, Director of the state laboratory institute, and a state epidemiologist)

In addition, the Commission should be composed of eight members appointed by the Governor:

Physician with peer-reviewed journal article on effects of industrial wind turbines on sleep and health

National Institute of health (NIH) researcher PhD in otolaryngology

Two physicians who are experts in the treatment/research of adverse health impacts of wind turbines

Two Boards of Health members in communities where wind turbines have produced complaints

Executive committee member of Wind Wise Massachusetts

Board member of Wind Wise Cape Cod

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