

**TESTIMONY PRESENTED TO THE JOINT HEARING OF THE ENVIRONMENT  
COMMITTEE  
March 14, 2011**

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Testimony Supporting House Bill No. 6386

AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL  
PROTECTION

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Senator Meyer, Representative Roy and distinguished members of the Energy and Technology and Environment Committees, thank you for the opportunity to offer testimony on House Bill No. 6386, AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION.

This bill proposes to centralize the coordination of energy policy within the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP), formerly the Department of Environmental Protection. The Office of Policy and Management Energy Unit existing staff will be transferred to DEEP and will be responsible for the development and analysis of energy policy options and strategies.

The bill also proposes to transfer the Department of Public Utility Control into the DEEP. DEEP will be responsible for conducting management audits of the public service companies; scheduling, coordinating, and issuing legal notices, and conducting public hearings and adjudicating all contested cases; conducting investigations into generic issues and conducting or sponsoring management audits of specific utility functions. The Siting Council is also transferred to DEEP.

I would like to again thank the committee for the opportunity to present this testimony. I respectfully request the Committee support this bill and I will be happy to answer any questions you may have.