

Renewable Energy Organization
Calvin College
3201 Burton Street SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49546
October 10, 2007

The Honorable Robert Dean
N1094 House Office Building
P.O. Box 30014
Lansing, MI 48909-7514

Dear Representative Dean:

As students living at Calvin College in Southeast Grand Rapids, we are writing to ask that you support renewable energy technology.

When Governor Granholm visited Calvin's campus last February, she indicated her interest in increasing renewable energy production in Michigan. Last year, Calvin College received a grant from the Energy Office of Michigan for a demonstration wind turbine on Calvin College's campus. We have since installed the turbine and have begun generating electricity. You can access live data from our demonstration turbine on the web at <http://wind.calvin.edu>.

We ask that you support Bill 5218 in the Michigan House of Representatives and promote renewable energy production at all levels of the Michigan government. This bill aims to protect Michigan's wealth of natural resources and stimulate economic development by promoting renewable energy sources. We are Christians seeking to honor God with every part of life and have a special responsibility to care for all parts of God's world. Fossil fuels have far-reaching, negative consequences on air, water, and soil quality. For example, our dependence on fossil fuels for electricity generation is pumping carbon dioxide into the atmosphere, spurring global climate change. Renewable energies, especially when combined with energy conservation, will radically reduce our consumption of fossil fuels.

By promoting development of small-scale renewable energy generators, this bill seeks to build Michigan's technological sector. The bill will encourage more investment in these technologies by mitigating start-up cost constraints associated with renewable energy. Development, production, and distribution of these renewable energy technologies will create rewarding jobs for many Michigan residents.

We feel that action must be taken to phase out fossil fuel energies in favor of conservation and renewable energies. House bill 5218 and similar legislation will promote employment and technology in Michigan while protecting our natural resources.

Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

The Renewable Energy Organization at Calvin College