



**Commonwealth of Virginia House of Delegates Commerce and Energy Committee
January 24, 2022**

**Testimony of Andrew Gohn on Behalf of the American Clean Power Association
OPPOSE – House Bill 74**

Andrew Gohn – Eastern Region Director of State Affairs

Chair Byron, and members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to offer testimony in opposition to House Bill 74.

I am Andrew Gohn, Eastern Region Director of State Affairs for the American Clean Power Association (ACP). American Clean Power is the voice of companies from across the clean power sector that are powering America's future and providing cost-effective solutions to the climate crisis while creating jobs, spurring massive investment in the U.S. economy, and driving high-tech innovation across the nation. ACP works to champion policies that will transform the U.S. power grid to a low-cost, reliable, and renewable power system.

House Bill 74 would put in place a program to exempt certain customers from non-bypassable surcharges associated with the procurement of renewables under the Commonwealth's RPS and offshore wind requirements.

ACP opposes any attempt to undermine the structure of the RPS and offshore wind programs advanced under the Virginia Clean Energy Jobs Act. It is not clear from the language of the bill how large such an exempt class of customers would be and what that would mean for other ratepayers who are forced to offset any exempted revenue, however, changing the distribution of cost across the customer base as this bill would require, would likely result in higher costs to non-exempt consumers. Our members are concerned that any such reallocation undermines and weakens the foundation of the broadly supported clean energy programs in the VCEA.

For this reason, we ask for an unfavorable report on HB 74.