

BILL NUMBER: HB 1700				DATE: <b>2/13/2024</b>
COMMITTEE: Pensions				
TESTIFYING:	✓ IN SUPPORT OF	IN OPPOSITION TO		ATIONAL PURPOSES
		WITNESS NAME		
	OBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: JAMES HARRIS			PHONE NUME 573-761-7	
REPRESENTING: OPPORTUNITY SC	DLUTIONS PROJECT		TITLE: LOBBYIS	т
ADDRESS: 122 EAST HIGH ST	<b>FREET, SUITE 200</b>			
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY			STATE: <b>MO</b>	ZIP: 65102
EMAIL:		ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT [ 2/13/20	DATE: 024 12:00 AM
THE INFORMA	TION ON THIS FOR	M IS PUBLIC RECOR	D UNDER CHA	PTER 610, RSMo.



WITNESS NAME WITNESS NAME WITNESS NAME:	NFORMATIC	13/2024 DNAL PURPOSES
WITNESS NAME WITNESS NAME WITNESS NAME:	IONE NUMBER: 12-329-0329	DNAL PURPOSES
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION: WITNESS NAME: PH	<b>)2-329-0329</b> TLE:	
WITNESS NAME: PH	<b>)2-329-0329</b> TLE:	
	<b>)2-329-0329</b> TLE:	
MATTHEW DU MEE 20		
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: TIT HERITAGE ACTION FOR AMERICA N/		
ADDRESS: 214 MASSACHUSETTS AVE		
CITY: ST WASHINGTON D	ATE: C	ZIP: 20002
EMAIL: ATTENDANCE: In-Person	SUBMIT DATE: 2/13/2024 5	5:38 PM
Thank you, Mr. Chairman, and members of the committee. My name is Matt testifying on behalf of Heritage Action for America on HB 1700. I previously attorney general's office working on consumer fraud issues, including fina Day tomorrow, and no one wants a Valentine who promises to be "sometin for Marines, and most relevant today, fiduciaries.Missourians' retirement sa asset manager efforts to push ESG(environmental, social, and governance companies. This bill addresses thatthreat by ensuring that the fiduciaries r pensions do so solely for thepurpose of maximizing financial return for ret joined together to use retirement funds to "transform the economy" tomee including net-zero greenhouse gas emissions. 1 Asset managers havechos policies on companies, through organizations like Climate Action100+ and Managers initiative. For example, BlackRock has committed tomeet with co shareholder votes to push companies to reach net zerogreenhouse gas en would have devastating effects on key Missouriindustries such as agricult manufacturing. 4Today, due to the popularity of index investing, BlackRocl assetmanagers are the largest shareholders in around 90% of the S&P 500 shareholders,these asset managers have enormous clout when they meet listen,because otherwise the asset managers can vote for new board memi and votes, these firms use the weight of all of their shares, regardless offwl in funds labeled "ESG" or not, to push ESG policies oncompanies.So, for o School & amp; Education Employee Retirement Systems(PSRS/PEERS) har BlackRock actively uses the sharespurchased by those billions to push ES company engagements andproxy voting.HB 1700 would strengthen existin that Missouri pension fundsshould be managed "solely in the financial inte The bill affirms thatthe "exclusive purposes" of trustees are providing fina and defrayingthe system's reasonable expenses. Under the bill, trustees ca political,or ideological interests, regardless of whether that pursuit would theirfiduciary duties. In addition to these fiduciary standa	y spent eight ncialfraud.lt nesfaithful." avings face ) policies or nanaging Mi irees.Asset it environme sen to jointly the Net Zero ompanies an hissions by 2 ure 3 and au k and the two solute 3 and the two solute 3 and the two solute 3 and the two solute 3 and the two solute	tyears in a state i's Valentine's The same goes a real threat from a public issouri's state managers have ental goals, y push ESG o Asset ad use its 2050. 2 Net zero to o other biggest CEOs have to e engagements e shares are held ssouri's Public illion invested in 'passive," 7 but te unequivocally asouri's retirees e any social, t "override" andleMissouri's

achieving-1-5c-now-at-scale-needed-to-deliver-the-transition/.2 One part of the Net Zero Asset Managers Commitment is to "Implement a stewardship and engagement strategy,with a clear escalation and voting policy, that is consistent with our ambition for all assets under management toachieve net zero emissions by 2050 or sooner." Net Zero Asset Managers Initiative,

"Commitment,"https://www.netzeroassetmanagers.org/commitment/. Similarly, one of Climate Action 100+'s "three asks" is that signatories agreed to "seek[] commitments from boards and senior management to . . . [t]ake action to reduce greenhouse gas emissions across the value chain." Climate Action 100+, "The Three

Asks,"https://web.archive.org/web/20230330063348/https://www.climateaction100.org/approach/thethree-asks/(archived copy).3 The Buckeye Institute, "New Buckeye Institute Report Finds Net-Zero Climate-Control Policies Fail Farmers & amp;Families" (Feb. 7, 2024)

https://www.buckeyeinstitute.org/research/detail/new-buckeye-institute-report-finds-net-zero-climatecontrol-policies-fail-farmers-families4 McKinsey & amp; Company, "Mobility's Net-Zero Transition: A Look at Opportunities and Risks,"https://www.mckinsey.com/industries/automotive-and-assembly/ourinsights/mobilitys-net-zero-transition-a-look-at-opportunities-and-risks (estimating a "net loss of 14 million jobs" in the auto industry in a net zero by 2050scenario).5 David Feirstein, Sarkis Jebejian & amp; Shaun J. Mathew, Kirkland & amp; Ellis LLP, Purpose, Culture and Long-TermValue—Not Just a Headline, Harv. L. Sch. F. on Corp. Governance (Feb. 26, 2019) ("BlackRock, State Street andVanguard . . . collectively constitute the single largest shareholder in almost 90 percent of S& amp;P 500 firms."),https://corpgov.law.harvard.edu/2019/02/26/purpose-culture-and-long-term-value-not-just-aheadline/.



		ATE: 2/13/2024
	FOR INFORMATI	IONAL PURPOSES
WITNESS NAME		
	PHONE NUMBER: 202-329-0329	
	TITLE: STATE DIRE	CTOR
	STATE: MO	ZIP: 64068
ATTENDANCE: In-Person	SUBMIT DATE 2/12/2024	
e Missouri House Committe nmittee, for the opportunity		hanlessas
;	ATTENDANCE: In-Person I IS PUBLIC RECORD U tor Heritage Action for Amo Missouri House Committe	WITNESS NAME   PHONE NUMBER:   202-329-0329   TITLE:   STATE DIRE   MO   ATTENDANCE:   In-Person   SUBMIT DATI   2/12/2024   IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPT   ctor Heritage Action for AmericaFebruary 13



BILL NUMBER: HB 1700				DAT 2/1	'Е: <b>3/2024</b>
COMMITTEE: Pensions					
TESTIFYING:	IN SUPPORT OF	✓ IN OPPOSITION TO		RMATIO	NAL PURPOSES
		WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:					
WITNESS NAME: ARNIE C."HONES	T-ABE" DIENOFF-STAT	TE PUBLIC ADVOCATE	PHONE N	JMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATIO	ON NAME:		TITLE:		
ADDRESS:					
CITY:			STATE:		ZIP:
EMAIL: arniedienoff@yah	oo.com	ATTENDANCE: Written		IT DATE: /2024 1	1:55 PM
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BILL NUMBER: HB 1700					TE: <b>13/2024</b>
COMMITTEE: Pensions					
TESTIFYING:	IN SUPPORT OF	✓ IN OPPOSITION TO	FOR	NFORMATIO	ONAL PURPOSES
		WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:					
WITNESS NAME: ASHLEY COSSINS	3		PH	IONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATIC	DN NAME:		TIT	ΓLE:	
ADDRESS:			·		
CITY:			ST	ATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: ashleymcossins@	gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 2/13/2024 §	9:57 AM
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COMMITTEE: Pensions				
TESTIFYING:	IN SUPPORT OF	✓ IN OPPOSITION TO		ATIONAL PURPOSES
		WITNESS NAME		
REGISTERED LO	BBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: ELIZABETH ALTHO	FF		PHONE NUME 573-632-6	
REPRESENTING: MISSOURI LAGERS	6		TITLE: LOBBYIS	г
ADDRESS: 701 WEST MAIN ST	REET			
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY			STATE: MO	ZIP: 65101
EMAIL:		ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT [ 2/13/20	DATE: 124 12:00 AM
THE INFORMAT	ION ON THIS FOR	M IS PUBLIC RECOR	D UNDER CHA	PTER 610, RSMo.



BILL NUMBER: HB 1700				DA <sup>-</sup> <b>2/</b> 1	TE: <b> 3/2024</b>
COMMITTEE: Pensions				·	
TESTIFYING:	IN SUPPORT OF	✓ IN OPPOSITION TO	FOR II	NFORMATIC	NAL PURPOSES
		WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:					
WITNESS NAME: JOHN P MEINZEN	ВАСН		PHO	ONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATIO	ON NAME:		TITI	LE:	
ADDRESS:					
CITY:			STA	ATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:		ATTENDANCE:		SUBMIT DATE: 2/13/2024 1	2:00 AM
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COMMITTEE: Pensions			
TESTIFYING: IN SUPPORT OF	✓ IN OPPOSITION TO		ATIONAL PURPOSES
	WITNESS NAME		
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: MICHAEL BERG		PHONE NUMB 314-644-10	
REPRESENTING: SIERRA CLUB MISSOURI CHAPTER		-	LUB MISSOURI POLITICAL R
ADDRESS: PO BOX 432010		·	
CITY: SAINT LOUIS		STATE: <b>MO</b>	ZIP: 63143
EMAIL: Michael.Berg@sierraclub.org	ATTENDANCE: In-Person	SUBMIT D 2/13/20	ATE: 24 7:51 AM
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real assessment of the needs of Missouria Foundation in Washington, DC that attem accountability from their investors. The bi- freedom of public pension boards to make workers whose hard-earned money is mar- first and second page, we see that House accountability and changes in the market. these companies, the pension funds will bi- industries or purposefully seek out new o bill seems to contradict itself. It says that political or ideological interests". Then a fi- specific social, political and ideological in industries in general, anti-abortion policie gun rights). Is this bill against ideological up its mind.Looking at lines 48 through 63 member vote the proxies of the pension s following guidelines set out by the legisla institutional investors-maintain Proxy Vot systems' understanding of best business competence and transparency.) These are investors. Additionally, external proxy adv and act in the best interest of their client, and unnecessary. Given the hundreds of p public pension fund to vote these proxies every entity covered will require an exempt who have savings in a public Missouri per business risks to their clients' investment practices. This bill requires public pension risks that threaten their ability to pay oblig public employees.It's also an attack on the	pts to shield preferred in ill would cause the Miss e prudent decisions that naged the pension fund Bill 1700 seeks to prote . By requiring Missouri poe unable to reduce exp pportunities in a clean of we should oppose invest few lines later, the bill sh terests (greenhouse gas s, opposition to transge litmus tests or is it for i 8 on the fourth page: It is ystem or have a fiducian ture and the pension sy ting Policies (also know practices that reduce rise already Board-approve visors are already requir which means requiring proxies voted each year without the assistance of the the second state provide and other state gations and thus it is an	ndustries like oil a ouri state governi t protect the retire Looking at lines to ct favored industri- bension funds to so osure to risk-lade energy economy.T sting "with a purp nows clear and ex s emitting energy enderism, and a bi- deological litmus s unnecessary to ry provide disclain stem. Pension fur n as guidelines) the sks to investors (so d policies that se- red to follow an im additional disclain , it is unreasonable of a proxy adviso ill 1700 is a clear to be able to review I by a changing cl entities to turn a li attack on the reti	and gas from ment to restrict the ement savings of the 5 through 36 on the ries from investor stay invested in n, volatile, polluting 'his section of the ose to further social, plicit support for sources, polluting road definition of tests? It can't make dictate that a Board mers that they are nds-like other hat outline the such as board ek to reduce risks to vestor's guidelines mers is burdensome le to mandate a r. Given this, most threat to all those reasonable imate or poor labor olind eye toward rement savings of

are already fiduciary rules. If through their board folks want to have standards on the practices of the businesses they invest in, they should be allowed to do so. It would be unfair to not allow them to do that. House Bill 1700 is one of ten anti-sustainable investing bills filed in the legislature this year. These bills are part of broad nationwide anti-sustainable investing campaign largely been driven and coordinated by the secretively funded State Financial Officers Foundation (SFOF). These public officials, in coordination with conservative think tanks like The Heritage Foundation and the Heartland Institute, are attempting to counter the implementation of a suite of new federal financial regulations related to climate change and other issues in response to investor demand. The vast majority of Americans, including the majority of Republicans, think that climate change is a serious problem and that we need to do more, not less, to deal with this problem. They think there should be more investment in renewable energy than in fossil fuels. That is one reason why bills such as this are not popular with voters, as they put obstacles in the way of free market solutions to problems that voters care about.Please reject House Bill 1700.



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		WITNESS NAME		
BUSINESS/ORG	ANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: PETER SCHNEEB	ERGR		PHONE NUME 573-529-5	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATIO	ON NAME: SSOURI CHAPTER		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: 605 THILLY AVEN	UE			
CITY: COLUMBIA			STATE: <b>MO</b>	ZIP: 65203
EMAIL:		ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT [ 2/13/20	DATE: 024 12:00 AM
THE INFORMA	TION ON THIS FOR	M IS PUBLIC RECOR	D UNDER CHA	PTER 610, RSMo.



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COMMITTEE: Pensions	I. I.	
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> □IN SUPPORT OF □IN OPPOSITION TO □F	OR INFORMAT	IONAL PURPOSES
WITNESS NAME		
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:		
WITNESS NAME: SCOTT HARPER	PHONE NUMBER 314-622-573	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEM OF THE CITY OF ST. LOUIS	TITLE: GENERAL C	OUNSEL
ADDRESS: 1114 MARKET STREET, ROOM 900		
CITY: ST. LOUIS	STATE: <b>MO</b>	ZIP: 63101
EMAIL: ATTENDANCE: Marpers@stlouis-mo.gov Written	SUBMIT DAT 2/12/2024	E: 10:21 AM
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session in consultation with its investment consultant, Marquette Assoc the Board that it opposes any mandated investment considerations or considerations for public pension investment fiduciaries. The Board a mandated proxy voting requirements. The Board retains money manage System's behalf. Some money managers may consider ESG investment other non-ESG investments such as fossil fuel companies. While other there is more economic investment opportunity in investments such as System hires the money managers because they are experts in investme believes that Missouri public pension investment fiduciaries should no standard other than the normal prudent investor standard currently im pension investment fiduciaries lest the System miss out on excellent it money managers hired by the Board also vote proxies on the System's requirement for voting the proxies is that the vote be in the best interest participants. By requiring or prohibiting certain considerations which managers as in the best interests of the System and its participants or restrict the money manager's ability to vote the proxies in a manner that value. It is speculative to put a dollar amount on such considerations, administer such considerations as money managers may be unwilling with voting the proxies. This would require the System to hire a proxy additional fees. How many Missouri public pension plans specifically the account? Don't most public pension plans in Missouri only seek to vo the retirement system and its participants. The representatives of Mar their belief that requiring consideration of such matters may prevent so managing assets of Missouri public pension plans and severely limit of commingled investment vehicles (which are much more cost effective like the System). Proposed pieces of legislation which impose financia fiduciaries who take these matters into consideration (such as HB 1700 the number of money managers willing to provide services to Missouri money managers may decide not to take on risk when public pension p financial p	prohibitions o lso expressed ers to make inv nts economica r money mana s fossil fuel con- nent opportunit t be required to posed on Miss nvestment opp behalf. The S sts of the Syste could be viewe creating econ- at may enhance but it will cost to accept the r voting compa- take ESG cons- te shares in the quette Associ- ome investmen portunities of for smaller pul- al penalties on 0) may have a public pensio- olans in other s	f investment concern about vestments on the ally superior to agers may believe impanies. The ities. The Board to consider a couri public bortunities. The System's only em and its ed by the money omic value, you ce shareholder to more to risk associated ny and pay siderations into e best interests of ates expressed int managers from ffered by blic pension plans investment chilling effect on in plans. The states don't have



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TESTIFYING:	IN SUPPORT OF	IN OPPOSITION TO		ATIONAL PURPOSES
		WITNESS NAME		
BUSINESS/ORG	ANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: ABBY SPIELER			PHONE NUME 573-632-6	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATIO	ON NAME: E EMPLOYEES RETIREI	MENT SYSTEM	TITLE: LOBBYIST	r
ADDRESS: 907 WILDWOOD				
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY	,		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65018
EMAIL:		ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT D 2/13/20	DATE: 24 12:00 AM
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TESTIFYING:	IN SUPPORT OF	IN OPPOSITION TO	FOR INFORM	ATIONAL PURPOSES
		WITNESS NAME		
BUSINESS/ORG	ANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: MIKE MOOREFIEI	LD		PHONE NUME 573-638-1	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATIO	ON NAME:			UNSEL
ADDRESS: P O BOX 268				
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY	,		STATE: <b>MO</b>	ZIP: 65101
EMAIL:		ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT I 2/13/20	DATE: 024 12:00 AM
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COMMITTEE: Pensions					
TESTIFYING:	IN SUPPORT OF	IN OPPOSITION TO	✓ FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
		WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:					
WITNESS NAME: SCOTT SIMON			PHONE NUMBER: 573-298-6020		
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: MODOT AND PATROL EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEMS			TITLE: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR		
ADDRESS: 1913 WILLIAM STREET					
	,		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65109	
EMAIL:		ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 2/13/2024 12:00 AM		
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