

May 6, 2018

Representative A. Nino Vitale
District 85
77 S. High St, 12th Floor
Columbus, OH 43215

Re: Substitute House Bill 6

Dear Chairman Vitale and Members of the Ohio House Energy and Natural Resources Committee:

Consumer Reports is an independent, nonprofit member organization that works side-by-side with consumers for truth, transparency, and fairness in the marketplace and has a strong track record supporting energy efficiency. Consumer Reports buys at retail, tests and rates major appliances and provides consumers information on efficiency and tips to help consumers eliminate energy waste. We do this work because the consumer benefits of energy efficiency investment are numerous and significant. For example, in Ohio:

- Utility energy efficiency investments have generated \$5.1 billion in customer bill savings from 2009-2017.¹
- Energy efficiency is the cheapest energy option available and costs three-times less than other resource options like nuclear and coal-fired power.²
- Utility energy efficiency investments are cost-effective. In 2017, every \$1 spent on utility energy efficiency programs generated \$2.65 in benefits for all Ohio residents and businesses.³

In addition, our research reveals that consumers want their utilities to invest in energy efficiency. Our recent national survey on consumers' attitudes toward their utility companies found that a strong majority of consumers want their utility company to invest in better energy efficiency before building new power plants.⁴

¹ Midwest Energy Efficiency Alliance, "Energy Efficiency: A Good Investment for Ohio," <http://www.mwalliance.org/sites/default/files/media/Ohio-State-Fact-Sheet.pdf?current=/taxonomy/term/11>

² Ibid.

³ Ibid.

⁴ Consumer Reports, Majority of Americans Want Cleaner Energy From Renewable Sources, <https://www.consumerreports.org/alternative-energy/majority-of-americans-want-cleaner-energy-from-renewable-sources/>



For all of these reasons, we write to express our strong concerns with the proposed repeal of Ohio's Energy Efficiency Resource Standard.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide these comments. Please contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Shannon M. Baker-Branstetter'.

Shannon Baker-Branstetter
Manager, Cars & Energy Policy
Consumer Reports