



Testimony of Thomas Ashley
In Support of H.B. 202

House Transportation and Public Safety Committee
Tuesday, June 25, 2019 - 11:00 AM
Room 114, Ohio Statehouse, Columbus, OH

Good afternoon Chair Green, Vice Chair McClain, and members of the Committee. My name is Thomas Ashley, and I am Vice President of Policy for Greenlots. Greenlots is a leading electric vehicle charging software and services company and a wholly owned subsidiary of Shell New Energies. Greenlots has been actively engaged in growing the market for transportation electrification in Ohio, and is engaged in charging infrastructure deployments across the state and region.

I, and Greenlots strongly support House Bill 202. This legislation to establish an Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Study Committee represents a critical step towards identifying and overcoming charging infrastructure related barriers across the state.

The lack of electric vehicle charging infrastructure is a well-documented and enduring barrier to electric vehicle adoption. Widespread and equitable transportation electrification in Ohio will only happen in the nearer term with the state legislature, Executive, and the state's utilities engaged, and with deliberate planning and analysis. Establishing this Study Committee is a common-sense and needed step in achieving and working towards these goals.

While the Public Utility Commission has undergone some process in evaluating these issues, direction and support from the Legislature is needed in Greenlots' view to keep needed forward momentum. This bill gently provides some direction, while establishing a forum for further evaluation of charging infrastructure related market gaps and barriers.

There is significant opportunity and potential for growth of electric vehicles in Ohio, but more importantly, this growth can yield savings for ratepayers and benefits to the electric grid, including the promise of significantly improving system efficiency if well planned, managed and scaled. Moreover, electric vehicle adoption will provide benefits for the environment, ratepayers and all Ohio residents, while supporting the state's manufacturing sector and broader economic development, and providing cost savings while keeping money in the local Ohio economy. This will not happen automatically however, and Greenlots draws a direct line between supportive policy signals from government, the deeper the role for the utility, and the greater the benefit to ratepayers, society and the economy at this stage of the market.

Greenlots stands ready and is enthusiastic to support the work of this Study Committee should this legislation be successful. To this end, and if appropriate, Greenlots wishes to participate in the Committee's work and provide expert industry knowledge and perspective as a complement

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to the perspectives of the other representatives and organizations that will be part of this Study Committee.

To reiterate, Greenlots strongly supports this legislation and encourages your support. I, and Greenlots, wish to be a resource for you or your colleagues in the legislature in its evaluation of these issues and for the development of electrified transportation in Ohio.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Thomas Ashley', with a stylized initial 'T' and 'A'.

Thomas Ashley
VP, Policy