

Sean Campbell, Laborers 310 – HB 6 Testimony

Proponent Testimony of
Laborers 310 Field Representative, Sean Campbell

Before the Energy and Natural Resources Committee of
The Ohio House of Representatives

May 15, 2019

Thank Mr. Chairman, and members of the committee, for allowing me to speak with you all today about HB 6 and why this is such an important issue for local labor. I'm Sean Campbell, a field representative for Laborers Local 310, part of the Cleveland Building & Construction Trades Council.

HB 6 is absolutely vital to help protect Ohio jobs and workers. If the legislature does not pass this bill, thousands of hardworking Ohioans will be out of a job—and these are not just any job, they are good-paying, highly skilled union jobs that provide benefits for Ohio families. Families like yours or mine.

Each of the state's two nuclear plants that would be closed down early if HB 6 is not passed into law, employ upwards of 7 or 8 hundred employees—and, combined, they actually support thousands more as well indirectly. These direct job losses and the negative impact the plant closures would have on thousands of others would be devastating.

But it's even bigger than that. These two endangered power plants do a lot of business with local vendors and suppliers, to the tune of \$45 million per year. This working relationship helps support many Ohio manufacturers that also rely on a skilled, union labor force—spurring growth in our manufacturing and industrial sector as well. If these plants close down prematurely, then that will affect the entire supply chain and threaten union workers across several economic sectors.

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HB 6, however, will help protect the 4,300 jobs directly or indirectly supported by these plants' daily operations while also supporting the roughly 10,000 jobs associated with other zero-carbon power producers—many of which are also proud union members. By providing funding for energy sources that do not produce carbon emissions or take steps to reduce their carbon emissions, the Ohio Clean Air Program created by HB 6 provides incentives that will help create even more jobs to support new sources of emissions-free energy production in our state. All of this is positive news for Ohio's workers and our air quality.

If passed, HB 6 would help protect and create more Ohio jobs, benefitting workers and their families—all while making additional environmental and economic contributions that will strengthen the entire state. Please pass HB 6 without delay. Thank you for your time.