



**Before the House Select Committee on Energy Policy and Oversight
Interested Party Testimony on HB 798
December 8, 2020**

Chairman Hoops, Vice Chair Abrams, Ranking Member Leland and members of the committee, thank you for the opportunity to testify as an interested party on House Bill 798. We also want to thank the general assembly for their continued efforts in confronting this difficult and volatile public policy arena.

Industrial Energy Users-Ohio's (IEU-Ohio) member companies are energy-intensive businesses that significantly contribute to Ohio's economy, employment and GDP, and their impact reaches far beyond their own facilities. IEU-Ohio has and continues to advocate before the general assembly for market-based structures that result in better customer opportunities and outcomes.

Last year when the General Assembly was considering HB 6 IEU-Ohio supported provisions of the bill that eliminated costly government mandates. The removal of those unnecessary customer charges for utility run energy efficiency and renewable energy programs is why the Legislative Services Commission indicated in May of this year that a full repeal of HB 6 would increase customers bills statewide by \$2.3 billion dollars. To IEU-Ohio members, other businesses and residential customers suffering through a global pandemic, that money is put to better use in customers hands.

In light of the issues regarding the passage of HB 6, IEU-Ohio appreciates the measured review the General Assembly has undertaken that is reflected in HB 798, as well as HB 772. In responding to the issues related to the passage of HB 6, the General Assembly should not restore costly government mandates that uniquely fall on Ohio's energy intensive businesses at the exact time they are seeking to recover from the current economic turmoil. If the legislature decides to delay charges related to the Clean Air Fund, or take the path set out in HB 772, and then take a further look at the issue in the next General Assembly, IEU-Ohio supports the General Assembly's actions.

Thank you once again, Chairman Hoops and members of the House Select Committee on Energy Generation, for allowing IEU-Ohio to provide interested party testimony on HB 798.

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