



Sustainability is the bottom line.

March 8, 2021 | Submitted Electronically

Representative James M. Hoops
Chair, Public Utilities Committee
Ohio House of Representatives
77 South High Street, 11th Floor
Columbus, OH 43215

Representative Sharon A. Ray
Vice Chair, Public Utilities Committee
Ohio House of Representatives
77 South High Street, 11th Floor
Columbus, OH 43215

Representative Kent Smith
Ranking Member, Public Utilities Committee
Ohio House of Representatives
77 South High Street, 11th Floor
Columbus, OH 43215

RE: Interested Party Testimony on HB 128; Four Dozen Businesses Support a Full Repeal of HB 6

Dear Chair Hoops, Vice Chair Ray, Ranking Member Smith, and Members of the House Committee on Public Utilities:

I am writing on behalf of Ceres, a national sustainability nonprofit, to share the attached letter from a group of nearly 50 Ohio businesses, investors, trade associations, and employers urging an immediate and full repeal of House Bill 6 and the complete restoration of Ohio's Energy Efficiency Resource and Renewable Portfolio Standards. The letter's signatories include national consumer and Fortune 500 brands like Ball Corp, General Mills, IKEA, and Nestlé, as well as mid-size companies in the energy sector, such as Ameresco, Inc., Cree Lighting, and Uplight.

While HB 128 would institute a partial repeal of HB 6, unfortunately, it would not restore Ohio's Energy Efficiency Resource and Renewable Portfolio Standards as these four dozen companies, investors, and associations recommend.

Prior to the passage of HB 6, ratepayers saved hundreds of millions of dollars each year on their utility bills and were on track to save more than \$5 billion by 2020 thanks to the state's energy efficiency programs. These savings could be reinvested back into the local economy, enabling businesses to support their employees, supply chains, and facilities. **With the implementation of HB 6, Ohio's utilities terminated these programs at the end of last year. As a result, these savings and reinvestment opportunities have disappeared.**

Recovery from the dual public health and economic crises facing Ohio heightens the need for clean energy investments. In 2018, prior to the passage of HB 6, almost 82,000 Ohioans worked in the energy efficiency sector. Many of these jobs are now at risk as employers struggle to stay in business. Prolonged uncertainty surrounding HB 6 will further damage the state's economy by permanently jeopardizing tens of thousands of these jobs and a collapse of the state's clean energy economy.



Thank you for your consideration of the enclosed letter. Please contact me with any questions, or if you wish to connect directly with any of the signatories.

Sincerely,

/s/

Deana Dennis
Sr. Manager, State Policy
Ceres

August 5, 2020

The Honorable Mike DeWine
Governor of Ohio
Riffe Center
77 S. High Street, 30th Floor
Columbus, OH 43215

The Honorable Robert Cupp
Speaker of the House
Riffe Center
77 S. High St, 13th Floor
Columbus, OH 43215

The Honorable Larry Obhof
President of the Senate
1 Capitol Square, 2nd Floor
Columbus, OH 43215

RE: Businesses Request Repeal of House Bill 6

Dear Governor DeWine, President Obhof, Speaker Cupp, and Members of the Ohio Legislature:

As businesses, investors, trade associations, and employers in Ohio, we write to urge the immediate repeal of House Bill 6 in light of the disturbing and shocking allegations revealed by the Federal Bureau of Investigation. In doing so, we join the call of Governor Mike DeWine to repeal HB 6. Given the credible allegations of corruption leveled by the U.S. Attorney, a repeal of HB 6 will help restore public confidence and ensure the continued growth of Ohio's clean energy economy.

We also urge you to support a restoration of Ohio's clean energy standards and put the state back on a path toward a clean energy future.

Ohio's renewable energy and energy efficiency standards have helped businesses and their supply chains cut energy costs, hedge against fuel price volatility, and make progress toward their commitments to reduce emissions. Further, clean energy investments keep our organizations viable in an environment where shareholders and consumers increasingly value sustainability. The availability of clean energy resources is increasingly critical as we navigate a shifting economy and business model in the wake of COVID-19.

The dual public health and economic crises facing our state further highlight the need for clean energy programs. In 2018, prior to the passage of HB 6, almost 82,000 Ohioans worked in the energy efficiency sector.¹ While COVID-19 has significantly harmed the industry, the uncertainty caused by HB 6 could irrevocably damage the state's economy by permanently jeopardizing tens of thousands of these jobs.

Prior to the passage of HB 6, ratepayers saved hundreds of millions of dollars each year on their utility bills and were on track to save more than \$5 billion by 2020.² In the past, these savings were reinvested back into the local economy and our operations, which helped us retain employees, invest in our supply chains, and plan for the future. With the implementation of HB 6, these savings and reinvestment opportunities would no longer exist.

Ohio faces unprecedented unemployment and continuing uncertainty over public health. Building a clean energy future may seem far off from the immediate challenges facing the state today. But, as we have seen since the start

¹ *Energy Efficiency Jobs in America 2019*. E4theFuture and E2. September 2019. e4thefuture.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/09/Energy-Efficiency-Jobs-in-America-2019.pdf.

² Ohio's energy efficiency standard alone saved Ohio customers \$5.1 billion in energy bill savings from 2009-2017.

of the pandemic, the loss of clean energy and energy efficiency jobs has real implications for our economy. It is critical that the legislature immediately repeal HB 6 to restore confidence in the legislative process and put Ohio back on a path toward economic recovery.

We urge the immediate repeal of HB 6 in order to restore public confidence and ensure the continued growth of Ohio's clean energy economy. Please reach out to us if you have any questions. We look forward to working with you to rebuild Ohio's economy.

Sincerely,

2G Energy, Inc.	Integral Power
AB Energy	Integrated CHP Systems Corp.
Air-Conditioning, Heating, and Refrigeration Institute	Ironclad Energy Partners, LLC
Ameresco, Inc.	JLL
Anax Power	Kanin Energy
Ball Corporation	Melink
Building Performance Association	Midwest Cogeneration Association
Burton	National Association of Energy Service Companies
Capstone Turbine Corporation	National Electrical Manufacturers Association
CEM Engineering	North American Insulation Manufacturers Association
Chambers for Innovation and Clean Energy	Nestlé
Clif Bar	NuGen LED Solutions
Combined Heat and Power Alliance	Polyisocyanurate Insulation Manufacturers Association
Cree Lighting	Primary Energy
DE Solutions	Proctor Engineering Group
Energy Dynamics Group	Recleim
Energy Management Solutions, Inc.	Schneider Electric
Facebook	Solar Turbines, Inc.
Friends Fiduciary	Sustainable Energy Services, Inc.
General Mills	Talan Products, Inc.
H. Ertel, Inc.	Terrapin Geothermics
Heat is Power Association	Trillium Asset Management
Henry F. Teichmann, Inc.	Uplight
IKEA Retail U.S.	YellowLite
Imagine Baking, Inc.	

CC: Lt. Governor Jon Husted
Speaker Pro Tempore Jim Butler
President Pro Tempore Bob Peterson
House Majority Leader Bill Seitz
House Minority Leader Emilia Sykes
Senate Majority Leader Matt Huffman
Senate Minority Leader Kenny Yuko

AMERESCO



BURTON



CREE LIGHTING

FACEBOOK

Friends Fiduciary



Schneider Electric

