

Senate Energy and Public Utilities Committee Senate Bill 10 February 2, 2021

Chairman Peterson and members of the Senate Energy and Public Utilities Committee, thank you for the opportunity to provide written proponent testimony on Senate Bill 10 (SB 10).

The Retail Energy Supply Association (RESA) is a broad and diverse group of retail energy suppliers who share the common vision that competitive retail electricity and natural gas markets deliver a more efficient, customer-oriented outcome than does the monopoly-protected, rate-regulated utility structure. RESA is devoted to working with all interested stakeholders to promote vibrant and sustainable competitive retail electric and natural gas markets in the best interests of residential, commercial, and industrial consumers.

While several inequities in current law warrant immediate attention from the Ohio General Assembly in order to enhance the state's competitive market, RESA member companies believe SB 10 is a good starting point for protecting Ohio's customers and competitive market participants. Repealing existing law that permits FirstEnergy to consolidate the total earned return on equity of its three Ohio operating companies for purposes of applying it to the state's Significantly Excessive Earnings Test, repealing the decoupling mechanism created in HB 6, and refunding the charges collected from customers as a result of those two provisions is paramount to the process of reforming the state's largely contradictory energy policies.

RESA strongly urges a broader energy policy reform discussion early this year so that we as a state can revisit the many anti-market provisions—including other anti-competitive provisions enacted as part of HB 6 and earlier legislation—in Ohio energy law that are long overdue to be corrected or updated to reflect current market conditions and the development of new technologies.

Thank you again for the opportunity to submit written proponent testimony on SB 10 and please do not hesitate to contact us if there are any questions or if you would like further information.