



December 12, 2023

Chair Reineke, Vice Chair McColley, Ranking Member Smith, and members of the Ohio Senate Energy and Public Utilities Committee:

I am writing to you on behalf of Drive Electric Columbus to express our strong opposition to Ohio House Bill 201, which is currently under consideration by the Senate Energy and Public Utilities Committee.

Drive Electric Columbus is dedicated to promoting the adoption of electric vehicles (EVs) and fostering sustainable transportation practices in our community. We believe the widespread adoption of electric vehicles is crucial for reducing our dependence on fossil fuels, mitigating climate change, and improving air quality. House Bill 201, however, poses significant challenges to the advancement of electric vehicle adoption in Ohio.

The language of House Bill 201 raises concerns for Drive Electric Columbus due to the following reasons:

*Environmental Impact:*

By restricting the ability of state agencies, townships, or counties to consider and encourage the adoption of cleaner energy sources for vehicles, House Bill 201 would impede efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The proposed legislation would hinder Ohio's ability to address air quality concerns and restrict Ohio from benefiting from advancements in cleaner vehicle technologies.

*Impact on Manufacturing Jobs:*

The electric vehicle and charging infrastructure sectors represent a significant source of jobs in Ohio. Any legislation that could potentially limit the growth of these industries may adversely affect employment opportunities and economic development in the state.

*Innovation and Technological Advancement:*

The electric vehicle industry is at the forefront of technological innovation. Limiting the adoption and growth of electric vehicles in Ohio may impede the state's ability to remain competitive in the rapidly evolving automotive and clean energy sectors.

As representatives of Drive Electric Columbus, we respectfully urge the Senate Energy and Public Utilities Committee to oppose House Bill 201. We recommend a careful examination of the potential implications on environmental goals, local autonomy, and the state's ability to address air quality concerns.

We appreciate your attention to this matter and are available to provide further information or clarification on our concerns. We hope that the Senate Energy and Public Utilities Committee will consider the long-term benefits of supporting the modernization of our transportation future in Ohio by opposing House Bill 201.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "R. Todd Williams". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored background.

R. Todd Williams, Director  
Drive Electric Columbus  
Info@DriveElectricColumbus.com