



Senate Energy & Public Utilities Committee

**Re: Proponent testimony, HB 308**

Chairman Reineke, Vice-Chair McColley, Ranking Member Smith:

Please be advised the Affiliated Construction Trades Ohio Foundation (ACT Ohio) is a 501(c)(5) organization established by the Ohio State Building & Construction Trades Council to promote industry best practices for Ohio's public and private construction. ACT Ohio currently represents 144 local affiliates across the state, who in the aggregate represent more than 97,000 building trades members.

ACT Ohio is a proponent of HB 308. ACT Ohio and our members support an all-of-the-above energy strategy for the state of Ohio. For decades, the Building Trades have built and have maintained our state's refineries, pipelines, power plants, and nuclear energy facilities. The Trades are leading the state in recruiting and training construction workers to build and maintain the infrastructure required to incorporate natural gas, clean coal technologies, wind, solar, hydropower, and alternative fuel production into Ohio's energy portfolio.

Energy sources that provide our state with efficient, safe, and reliable power generation *without* increasing carbon dioxide emissions are essential to meeting the projected power demand in Ohio over coming decades. Energy generation - including nuclear power generation - is an economic driver of job creation across our state and nation. Critical infrastructure investments are helping to improve Ohio's energy resilience by diversifying the state's energy economy, while creating thousands of family-sustaining construction and maintenance jobs.

The clean energy sector is a growing industry and economic driver of job creation in Ohio not only for our members, but for our communities as well. We strongly support the state's efforts to support a robust economy, healthy environment, and enhanced public health through an all-of-the-above energy approach that includes green nuclear generation. HB 308 is critical to developing new tools to help alleviate economic pressure on Ohioans through strategic green-energy implementation programs.

For these reasons, ACT Ohio is a proponent of HB 308. We convey our sincere appreciation and willingness to partner with this General Assembly's efforts to catalyze financial opportunities for clean technologies while maintaining the diversity and safety of Ohio's energy sector.

Matthew A. Szollosi  
Executive Director, ACT Ohio