



Proponent Testimony of Senate Bill 307  
Susan Munroe  
Chambers for Innovation and Clean Energy  
Senate Energy and Public Utilities Committee  
April 4, 2022

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Chair McColley, Vice Chair Schuring, Ranking Member Williams, and members of the Senate Energy and Public Utilities Committee,

As Deputy Director of Chambers for Innovation and Clean Energy (CICE) and former CEO of the Van Wert Area Chamber of Commerce, I am writing to express CICE's support for Senate Bill 307, Accelerating Ohio's Auto Industry.

CICE works closely with chambers of commerce and economic development organizations across Ohio to help them navigate the economic opportunities of clean energy development. Created and led by chamber executives, CICE assists these economic associations to highlight business leadership in the areas of clean energy, climate action, and resilience.

CICE encourages state lawmakers to demonstrate to automakers that Ohio is serious about remaining a strong partner to the auto industry as it shifts to electric vehicle production. Now is the time to position Ohio as an EV industry leader and not fall behind other states in one of the fastest growing sectors in the nation and world.

Here are the top economic opportunities of SB 307:

- **Factory Retooling**
  - This section provides \$15 million a year in grant funding to companies that either retool existing facilities or expand their facility to produce EVs or EV parts.
  - This will be good for businesses and provide economic development opportunities in the EV manufacturing sector.
- **Workforce Development**
  - This section of the bill provides grants to educational institutions to train auto technicians and electricians on how to work on EVs and EVSE.
  - A trained workforce will be able to support manufacturers as EV adoption accelerates.
- **EV purchase incentive**
  - This section includes a purchase incentive for consumers and fleets buying EVs and PHEVs.
- **Updates to Utility EV Charging Infrastructure Regulations**
  - This section provides guidance to the Public Utilities Commission to provide regulatory certainty to Ohio's utilities and relieves individual EVSE site hosts of burdensome system upgrade costs
  - Subject to approval from the PUCO, utilities will be enabled to support make-ready infrastructure for EV charging and support adoption of EV chargers through incentives and investments. They will also be allowed to file

Transportation Electrification plans with the PUCO, which must seek to minimize overall costs and maximize overall benefits

Chamber and economic leaders across the nation are welcoming the largest economic and job creation investments in their state's history- many from the EV industry. Ohio is well positioned to be the next state to make such an announcement pending a clear signal of its all-in support of the industry with legislation like SB 307.

Let's position Ohio as an EV innovation leader and pass SB 307. Thank you for your commitment to move Ohio forward and for your consideration of these comments.

Respectfully,

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