

# WITNESS INFORMATION FORM

Please complete the Witness Information Form before testifying:

Date: 12/2/2020

Name: Deana Dennis

Are you representing: Yourself ☐ Organization ☒

Organization (If Applicable): Ceres

Position/Title: Senior Manager, State Policy

Address: 99 Chauncey St.

City: Boston State: MA Zip: 02111

Best Contact Telephone: 617-247-0700 x193 Email: ddennis@ceres.org

Do you wish to be added to the committee notice email distribution list? Yes ☒ No ☐

Business before the committee

Legislation (Bill/Resolution Number): HB 798

Specific Issue: Oppose Bill in its Entirety

Are you testifying as a: Proponent ☐ Opponent ☒ Interested Party ☐

Will you have a written statement, visual aids, or other material to distribute? Yes ☒ No ☐

(If yes, please send an electronic version of the documents, if possible, to the Chair's office prior to committee. You may also submit hard copies to the Chair's staff prior to committee.)

How much time will your testimony require? N/A

Please provide a brief statement on your position:

*Please be advised that this form and any materials (written or otherwise) submitted or presented to this committee are records that may be requested by the public and may be published online.*



Written Testimony | Submitted December 2, 2020

The Hon. James M. Hoops  
Chairman, Select Committee on Energy Policy & Oversight  
Ohio House of Representatives

The Hon. Cindy Abrams  
Vice Chair, Select Committee on Energy Policy & Oversight  
Ohio House of Representatives

Hon. David Leland  
Ranking Member, Select Committee on Energy Policy & Oversight  
Ohio House of Representatives

**RE: Ceres' Opposition to HB 798; Business Support for the Immediate and Complete Repeal of HB 6**

Dear Chairman Hoops, Vice Chair Abrams, Ranking Member Leland, and Members of the House Select Committee on Energy Policy and Oversight:

On behalf of Ceres, a sustainability organization representing more than 65 major U.S. businesses and a group of institutional investors with more than \$26 trillion in assets under management, I write to express strong opposition to House Bill 798. House Bill 6 was passed under a cloud of corruption and must be subject to an **immediate and complete** repeal.

**Unfortunately, HB 798 fails to rectify the significant economic damage wrought by HB 6 because it fails to restore Ohio's clean energy standards.** Prior to the passage of HB 6, these standards saved ratepayers hundreds of millions of dollars each year and were on track to save Ohioans more than \$5 billion by 2020. These savings compounded across the supply chain and were reinvested back into the local economy. **Any legislation to address HB 6 must fully restore Ohio's Renewable Portfolio Standard and Energy Efficiency Resource Standard.**

Attached please find a letter signed by four dozen Ohio companies, investors, trade associations, and employers in support of a full and immediate repeal of HB 6. These businesses recognize the critical role of Ohio's clean energy economy, especially as the state tackles the economic and public health crisis caused by COVID-19. They urge you to restore Ohio's clean energy standards without delay.

Thank you for your consideration. Please contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,  
Deana Dennis  
Senior 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.<sup>1</sup> 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.<sup>2</sup> 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

<sup>1</sup> *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](https://e4thefuture.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/09/Energy-Efficiency-Jobs-in-America-2019.pdf).

<sup>2</sup> 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.  
AB Energy  
Air-Conditioning, Heating, and Refrigeration Institute  
Ameresco, Inc.  
Anax Power  
Ball Corporation  
Building Performance Association  
Burton  
Capstone Turbine Corporation  
CEM Engineering  
Chambers for Innovation and Clean Energy  
Clif Bar  
Combined Heat and Power Alliance  
Cree Lighting  
DE Solutions  
Energy Dynamics Group  
Energy Management Solutions, Inc.  
Facebook  
Friends Fiduciary  
General Mills  
H. Ertel, Inc.  
Heat is Power Association  
Henry F. Teichmann, Inc.  
IKEA Retail U.S.  
Imagine Baking, Inc.

Integral Power  
Integrated CHP Systems Corp.  
Ironclad Energy Partners, LLC  
JLL  
Kanin Energy  
Melink  
Midwest Cogeneration Association  
National Association of Energy Service Companies  
National Electrical Manufacturers Association  
North American Insulation Manufacturers Association  
Nestlé  
NuGen LED Solutions  
Polyisocyanurate Insulation Manufacturers Association  
Primary Energy  
Proctor Engineering Group  
Reclim  
Schneider Electric  
Solar Turbines, Inc.  
Sustainable Energy Services, Inc.  
Talan Products, Inc.  
Terrapin Geothermics  
Trillium Asset Management  
Uplight  
YellowLite

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



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