

I am an artist and my husband is a teacher. Needless to say, we are not wealthy people. But within the last five years, with the help of federal, state and local programs, we've installed solar panels on our home and purchased a plug-in hybrid car. We are doing all we can to reduce our carbon footprint, because we desperately care about the future our children and our grandchildren will inherit. We appreciate the public support which put these actions within our reach.

I believe that enlightened public policy has a critical role to play in weaning our society from its unsustainable dependence on fossil fuels. Though we are limited in what we can do as individuals, acting together we can change the trajectory that is leading to a rapidly warming planet. Our actions today are determining the quality of life our descendants will enjoy (or not).

That's why it was especially distressing for me to witness the passage of House Bill 6. Like the majority of Ohioans, I opposed this corporate bailout paid for by consumers and taxpayers. Additionally, by gutting Ohio's clean energy mandates, this bill was a real step backward environmentally. When I later discovered that this corporate welfare bill was passed thanks to \$61 million in bribes, I was even more appalled. Now, despite repeated calls for its repeal, the Ohio legislature refuses to act. By placing corporate greed above the common good, Ohio lawmakers are destroying our confidence in their ability to represent us, and proving once again that in politics, it's often money that matters most.

House Bill 6 passed by one vote. If just one legislator was swayed by the \$61 million spent by special interests, this bill should not have passed. Only a complete repeal of this corrupt legislation can restore Ohioans' trust in their elected representatives.

Julie Lonneman
Cincinnati, Ohio