

My name is Julie Novel and I am a member of Mom's Clean Air Force, a national organization fighting for clean air.

This is a story about corrupt politicians who took bribes in order to gain power, influence and financial gain. There wouldn't be a story without First Energy, an Akron-based company that bought the passage of House Bill 6, legislation that funded an \$800 million stock buy-back for First Energy investors – a greedy plot charged to the hard working people of Ohio.

In November 2016, Akron-based First Energy informed investors in its annual shareholder report of “a weak energy market, poor forecast demands and hundreds of millions of dollars in losses, particularly from its nuclear energy affiliate.” That same month, Larry Householder was elected once again to the Ohio House of Representatives. Six months later, Ohio lawmakers began the process of introducing legislation billed as a Zero Emissions Nuclear Program, bills that did not advance until former Speaker Householder funneled secret payments from a sham non-profit funded by First Energy to candidates running for Ohio's General Assembly.

In 2019 Householder regained his position as House Speaker after illegally funding the election campaigns of his supporters in Ohio's General Assembly. The First Energy bailout quickly moved through the House and Senate. Within six months, House Bill 6 was signed into law, burdening the people of Ohio with the cost of this illegal scheme.

Thanks to the good work of the US Attorney for the Southern District of Ohio, this story does not have a happy ending for Speaker Householder, but it can end well for the people of Ohio. I urge lawmakers to restore public trust in Government by immediately and completely repealing HB 6. It is the only acceptable path forward.