

Ohio State Senate
Energy and Public Utilities Committee
1 Capitol Square
Columbus, Ohio 43215

November 16, 2020

To Chair Wilson, Vice Chair McColley, Ranking Member Williams, and the Members of the Ohio Senate Energy and Public Utilities Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity for us to provide written opponent testimony on Senate Bill 346 (SB 346) to repeal HB 6 of the 133rd Ohio General Assembly. The repeal of HB 6 would be bad for all Ohioans. We deplore any alleged illegal or unethical activity surrounding the passage of HB 6. However, despite these allegations, HB 6 remains good energy policy for Ohio for several reasons. First, it promotes in-state carbon-free energy generation, protects Ohio jobs and our economy, and results in lower monthly utility bills for Ohio homes and businesses. If the Davis-Besse and Perry nuclear plants are forced to close down and go offline prematurely, the energy that will almost certainly replace them will come from a less clean source, undermining our ability to lower our carbon footprint and limit air pollution. Next, HB 6 maintains Ohio's two nuclear power plants which helps to ensure a diverse energy grid and also keeps Ohio energy independent, which will help to attract business to our state. Third, while ensuring we remain on track to reduce emissions, retaining HB 6 will also protect Ohio jobs and communities across the state. Ohio's two nuclear power facilities support 4,300 Ohio jobs either directly or indirectly—and they spend \$45 million with local vendors and suppliers, helping stimulate other areas of our state's economy and support businesses throughout the state. Combined, the Perry and Davis-Besse plants also pay upwards of \$30 million in state and local taxes, which goes back into supporting services like public schools, first responders, and other community services. Finally, maintaining HB 6 will help keep energy prices down for Ohioans—both by eliminating costly mandates that are currently factored into utility bills and by maintaining Ohio's energy diversity and energy independence. Without HB 6—and if these

plants are taken offline early—the average residential electricity bill will increase and Ohio may even have to import costlier, dirtier energy from out of state.

Maintaining HB 6 is absolutely critical for our state’s energy policy and to preserve Ohio’s largest source of emissions-free energy—not to mention protecting thousands of local jobs, strengthening our communities and economy, as well as keeping energy costs for Ohio homes and businesses low. We also offer the attached resolution of the Benton-Carroll-Salem Board of Education regarding this matter. Please help keep Ohio strong and vote against SB 346.

Sincerely,

Guy L. Parmigian
Superintendent
Benton-Carroll-Salem Schools
Oak Harbor, OH

Cajon H. Keeton
Treasurer
Benton-Carroll-Salem Schools
Oak Harbor, OH

Benton-Carroll-Salem

School District

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Resolution of the Board of Education of the Benton-Carroll-Salem Local School District of Ottawa County, Ohio

Whereas, The Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Station operated by Energy Harbor is a key partner in the education of our students; and,

Whereas, continued operations of Davis-Besse are essential to our nation and state for a variety of reasons including thousands of direct and indirect jobs, maintaining a diverse energy grid, and maintaining energy independence; and,

Whereas, if Davis-Besse and Perry Nuclear Power Plant (Lake Co) are closed, nearly 90% of Ohio's zero-carbon electric power generation will be lost and Ohio will become an importer of electric power;

NOW, THEREFORE the Board of Education of the Benton-Carroll-Salem Local School District expresses its concern with any legislative proposals to repeal House Bill 6 (HB 6) without a thoroughly vetted and workable replacement. We detest any alleged illegal or unethical activity that may have occurred before, during, or after the legislation, but strongly believe that the energy policy outcomes of HB 6 were a tremendous benefit to all Ohioans.

**Resolved this 27th day of August, 2020, in the State of Ohio, County of Ottawa,
and Village of Oak Harbor.**

Heather Dewitz, President
Steve Rhodes, Vice President
Kim Dusseau
Jeff Dornbusch
Jamie Tooman

HOME OF THE OAK HARBOR ROCKETS

Guy L. Parmigian, Ph.D.
Superintendent

Cajon H. Keeton
Treasurer