

SENATE BILL 44 PROPONENT, IEU-OHIO SENATE ENERGY & PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMITTEE FEBRUARY 23, 2021

The Honorable Chairman Bob Peterson Senate Building 1 Capitol Square Columbus, OH 43215

Dear Chairman Peterson,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit this letter as a proponent of Senate Bill 44 (SB 44) on behalf of the Industrial Energy Users-Ohio (IEU-Ohio).

IEU-Ohio is a non-profit trade organization of energy-intensive Ohio industrial and commercial businesses with more than \$3 billion in annual energy expenditures. By combining the skill sets, knowledge, and experience of our members and staff, and for the last quarter century, IEU-Ohio has been proactively addressing state and national issues in legislative and regulatory forums that affect the price and availability of electricity, natural gas and related energy services, before they become a problem. IEU-Ohio's overarching objective is to support market-based solutions that deliver competitive and reasonable prices and options to best position Ohio businesses to act on their individual needs and preferences in the competitive energy marketplace.

SB 44 would revise Ohio law to remove a requirement that electric distribution utilities collect money through their customer' bills to financially support two nuclear generation facilities in Ohio. It is our understanding that this financial support may no longer be necessary to continue operation of these facilities. Additionally, SB 44 would reduce the electric bills of all customers served by an Ohio electric distribution utility. Eliminating, and not adopting new, unnecessary utility charges on Ohio businesses is especially important as Ohio businesses seek to recover from the current economic conditions.

Thank you in advance for your consideration of this letter as a proponent of SB 44 and we look forward to working with you on this and future energy related legislation that helps support Ohio's business community.

Kevin Murray Executive Director, IEU-Ohio Charles Willoughby Sr. Govt. Relations Advisor, IEU-Ohio