



April 4, 2022 | Submitted Electronically

BICEP Members:

- Adobe
- Akamai Technologies
- Annie's Inc
- Autodesk, Inc.
- Aveda
- Avocado Green Brands
- Ball Corporation**
- Ben & Jerry's
- Biogen
- BlueCross Blue Shield of Massachusetts
- Burns & McDonnell
- Burton Snowboards
- Burt's Bees
- Clif Bar**
- CommonSpirit
- Danone N.A.**
- DoorDash
- DSM
- eBay Inc.
- Eileen Fisher
- Etsy
- Fetzer Vineyards
- Gap Inc.**
- General Mills**
- Grove Collaborative
- Hackensack Meridian Health
- Hannon Armstrong
- Happy Family Organics
- HP, Inc.
- IKEA**
- Impossible Foods
- Indigo Agriculture
- JLL**
- Kaiser Permanente
- KB Home
- L Brands**
- L'Oreal**
- Levi Strauss & Co.
- LinkedIn
- Logitech
- Lyft**
- Mars Incorporated**
- Mass Brigham General
- McDonald's**
- Microsoft**
- Nature's Path Foods
- Nestle**
- New Belgium Brewing
- Nike
- NortonLifeLock
- Novartis
- Outdoor Industry Association
- Owens Corning**
- Palisades Tahoe
- Patagonia
- PayPal**
- Portland Trail Blazers
- REI
- Salesforce
- SFO
- Seventh Generation
- Siemens
- Sierra Nevada
- Snowsports Industries America
- Starbucks
- Stonyfield Farm
- The North Face
- Tiffany & Co.
- Timberland
- Unilever
- VF Corporation
- Vail Resorts**
- Vulcan, Inc.
- Workday
- Worthen Industries

Hon. Rob McColley
 Chair
 Energy & Public Utilities Committee
 Ohio Senate
 1 Capitol Square
 Columbus, OH 43215

Hon. Kirk Schuring
 Vice Chair
 Energy & Public Utilities Committee
 Ohio Senate
 1 Capitol Square
 Columbus, OH 43215

Hon. Sandra R. Williams
 Ranking Member
 Energy & Public Utilities Committee
 Ohio Senate
 1 Capitol Square
 Columbus, OH 43215

RE: Ceres BICEP Network Support for Accelerating Ohio's Auto Industry (SB 307)

Dear Chair McColley, Vice Chair Schuring, and Ranking Member Williams,

I write on behalf of the Ceres BICEP (Business for Innovative Climate and Energy Policy) Network, a coalition of more than 80 major employers across the United States, including many with major operations and facilities in Ohio. As a representative of this Network, I write to urge you to support [SB 307](#)—Accelerating Ohio's Auto Industry (AOAI), which would create long-term investment into Ohio's electric vehicle (EV) industry. We fully support this opportunity to deliver the economic and business benefits of EVs to Ohio companies and residents.

The Ceres [Corporate Electric Vehicle Alliance](#) (CEVA) is a collaborative group of companies that are seeking to electrify their fleets. CEVA members—including major industry figures such as Amazon, IKEA, AT&T, and Lyft (all of whom have a presence in Ohio), see EVs as a cost-saving and brand enhancing investment. This coalition of 30 major corporate fleets, recently [conducted a survey](#) finding that **23 members plan to procure 330,000 electric vehicles within the next 5 years**. Their number one challenge has been model availability – they cannot find the models they want in the geographies where they need them.

EVs offer significant business advantages such as cost savings on fuel and maintenance, more predictable fuel prices, improved passenger safety, and enhanced reputation. These savings benefit not only businesses' bottom lines, but also their employees and customers. Ohio's automobile industry constitutes



a significant portion of the state economy, employing over 100,000 workers,¹ and Ohio is already poised to receive over \$140 million in federal funding for EV infrastructure over the next five years.² AOAI is positioned to take advantage of the already-significant business demand for EVs in Ohio.³ According to a Bloomberg New Energy Finance report, EVs are projected to reach 10% of global new passenger car sales by 2025 and increase to 58% by 2040.⁴ AOAI's substantial investments in physical and human capital, direct purchase incentives, and regulatory clarity will support this rapidly growing industry sector attracting further investment to the state and generating local, well-paying jobs.

We applaud Senator Rulli and his lead co-sponsors for placing the state in a position to maximize the benefits of the electric vehicle industry. Supporting the automobile industry and EV production will drive economic development and innovation throughout the state while unlocking transportation cost savings for both companies and residents. AOAI sends a clear message to industry leaders that electric vehicles and associated infrastructure are priorities for Ohio, which will attract fleet investments, generate consumer savings, and drive job growth across the state. Ceres supports AOAI (SB 307) as an impactful investment in a more robust and cost-effective transportation economy for Ohio – sending a signal that the state is open for business.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide these comments, and please do not hesitate to contact us with questions.

Anne L. Kelly

Vice President Government Relations,
On behalf of Business for Innovative Climate and Energy Policy (BICEP)

For additional information, please contact Deana Dennis, Senior Manager for State Policy at Ceres (ddennis@ceres.org).

The [Ceres BICEP Network](#) comprises influential companies advocating for stronger climate, clean energy, and clean transportation policies at the state and federal levels in the U.S. **Ceres BICEP Members listed in bold on the page above have direct operations in Ohio.** For more information on the Ceres BICEP Network, visit www.ceres.org/BICEP.

¹ Mahoning Matters, 2022. "[UPDATE | New Rulli bill would create 'blueprint' for EV growth in Ohio.](#)"

² Sabrina Eaton, cleveland.com, 2022. "[Ohio to get \\$140 million for electric vehicle charging stations from bipartisan infrastructure bill.](#)"

³ Tech company Foxconn has agreed to serve as a contract manufacturer for Lordstown Motors after acquiring its assembly plant for \$230 million, and Ultium Cell LLC (a joint-General Motors and LG Energy Solutions venture) has invested \$2.3 billion in a new battery manufacturing plant. (Dan O'Brien, Business Journal Daily, 2022. "[Legislation Would Provide Incentives, Task Force for EV Development in Ohio](#)").

⁴ Bloomberg New Energy Finance, 2020. [Electric Vehicle Outlook, 2020.](#)