

April 4, 2022

Senator Rob McColley Chair, Senate Energy and Public Utilities Committee Senate Building 1 Capitol Square, 2nd Floor Columbus, OH 43215

Re: Support for Senate Bill 307

Dear Chairman McColley:

Thank you for the opportunity to express Honda's support for Senate Bill 307, which will help facilitate the auto industry's ongoing transition to the electrification of our fleets. Given the important symbiotic relationship Ohio has with the auto industry, it is critical for the state to take a leadership role in facilitating this transition and ensuring its success.

Senate Bill 307 does this by helping OEMs make necessary investments in workforce development and factory retooling; encouraging consumer adoption of electric vehicle (EV) technology through incentive programs; and investing in EV charging infrastructure. As Ohio's largest automotive manufacturer, Honda looks forward to being part of the discussion on how Ohio can best support an electric mobility future.

Honda is striving to reach carbon neutrality by 2050, which includes a vision to have 100% of our new vehicle sales in North America be fully electric vehicles by 2040. This is a very ambitious plan, and we recognize that the transition to a 100% EV future will be long and complicated, which is why we also appreciate that this legislation creates a task force to monitor Ohio's transition and make recommendations to the legislature and administration as necessary. Honda looks forward to being a resource for this task force to aid the state of Ohio during this transformative time.

Environmental stewardship has always been at the core of Honda's philosophy, which is why U.S. EPA currently ranks Honda as the most fuel-efficient full-line automaker in America and why Honda is considered an environmental leader in the industry.

Honda has been producing vehicles for 40 years in Ohio, which is currently home to five Honda manufacturing plants, our North American R&D center, and other facilities that combined employ more than 14,000 associates and represent a \$14 billion capital investment in the state. In addition to our direct employment, we have 554 authorized dealerships that employ more than 7,000 people and provide Ohio consumers with a wide range of products that utilize the latest environmental and safety technologies.

For more information on Honda's presence in the United States or our environmental leadership, please visit <u>www.hondainamerica.com</u> or follow us on Twitter at @HondaInAmerica.

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If you have any questions or if Honda can otherwise be a resource for you, please do not hesitate to contact me. Thank you for your time and interest on this important issue.

Sincerely,

Jeff W. Reed Government Relations Director, Midwest Region American Honda Motor Co. jwreed@na.honda.com

CC: Members of the Ohio Senate Energy and Public Utilities Committee Senator Michael A. Rulli