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May 16, 2022

To: Senate Energy and Public Utilities Committee
From: Emily Kelly, Manager, Public Policy – ChargePoint
RE: S.B. 307, Regards Electric Vehicle Incentives, transport electrification

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

Thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony as an interested party to S.B. 307. My name is Emily Kelly, and I am the Public Policy Manager at ChargePoint. ChargePoint is the nation's leading electric vehicle ("EV") charging network, with charging solutions for all driver needs and for all the places EV drivers go. ChargePoint designs, develops, and deploys residential and commercial AC Level 2 and DC fast charging stations, cloud-based software applications, and related customer and driver services aimed at creating a robust EV charging ecosystem.

ChargePoint applauds Senator Rulli and this Committee for embracing the challenges and opportunities for Ohio in planning for EVs and EV charging, which represents a paradigm shift in transportation. S.B. 307 offers ideas to keep Ohio at the top of the auto manufacturing market, prepare the state for rising EV demand, and support continued private infrastructure investment that will support Ohio's transition to electric transportation.

While most charging occurs a driver's home or workplace, charging infrastructure is also being deployed by cities, towns, and private businesses in communities and along highway corridors. Federal infrastructure funds can help to support the deployment of charging infrastructure, and the proposed Ohio Automotive Industry Task Force can ensure that Ohio continues to support the sustainable development of EV charging around the state.

S.B. 307 also attempts to address regulatory uncertainty as it relates to roles for electric utilities in EV charging. There are many appropriate roles for electric utilities in the competitive EV charging market, which are important issues for the legislature to consider as it seeks to expand access to electric transportation while also preserving Ohio's healthy and competitive EV charging market.

ChargePoint believes S.B. 307 offers a starting point for addressing these questions and looks forward to working with all stakeholders as we collectively create a regulatory structure that preserves and promotes competition, ensures adequate grid capacity, and makes it easier for Ohio to ride and drive electric.

Ohioans should be excited that their elected leadership, in both the executive and legislative branches, are asking these important questions. ChargePoint stands ready to work with you to position Ohio at the forefront of the transition to electric transportation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Emily Kelly".

Emily Kelly
Manager, Public Policy
ChargePoint