

8 N. Main St., Ste. 100
Dayton, OH 45402

May 7, 2024

Chair Dick Stein and Public Utilities Committee
Ohio House of Representative
Statehouse
Columbus, Ohio 43215

Dear Chairman Stein and members of the House Public Utilities Committee:

I am writing you today in regards to HB 260 and its impact on our regional business community.

The Dayton Area Chamber of Commerce is leading voice of business in the Dayton region representing over 2,200 members that employ 200,000 people in the 14 county Dayton region.

Electric utility ratemaking affects both businesses and individuals in the Dayton area. The Distribution Rate Case is a critical regulatory filing for Ohio's electric distribution utilities. In Distribution Rate Cases, the PUCO looks holistically at an EDU's books and records to set just and reasonable rates for the delivery of electricity.

HB 260 creates the first ever must-file rate case for electric utilities. This provision will provide customers with greater transparency their utility costs. The legislation also modernizes outdated provisions of the Revised Code and replaces it with common sense solutions to account for new technology.

Another provision of importance to the Dayton Area Chamber of Commerce is the timing of rate cases. HB 260 will provide clear timelines for the PUCO to approve and implement rates. This will allow businesses to better anticipate their utility costs.

Utility prices are a large portion of business operations and managing those costs is vital to ensure growth. The changes to the ratemaking process in HB 260 would allow business to better anticipate their utility costs. This will ensure that Dayton area businesses are able to continue to provide employment opportunities and grow their operations in Ohio.

Overall, HB 260 will be benefit to businesses and individuals in the Dayton community.

Thank you for your attention to this important piece of legislation.

Sincerely,



Chris Kershner,
President & CEO