

41ST HOUSE DISTRICT

LUCAS COUNTY

Committees

Vice Chair Criminal Justice,
Higher Education, Primary and
Secondary Education, Economic
and Workforce Development



COLUMBUS OFFICE

VERN RIFFE CENTER
77 SOUTH HIGH STREET 11TH FLOOR
COLUMBUS, OH 43215-0253
PHONE: (614) 466-1418
REP41@OHIOHOUSE.GOV

**State Representative Joshua E. Williams
Ohio House of Representatives**

Chairman McClain, Vice Chair Dobos, Ranking Member Grim, and members of the House Committee, thank you for the opportunity to offer sponsor testimony on House Resolution 198.

In April, the Biden administration proposed new rules via the EPA to enforce drastic emissions standards on the production of new cars and trucks. If enforced, these rules will force auto-manufacturers to ramp up production of electric cars so that 67% of sales are completely electric by 2032. This decision will prove to be nothing less than disastrous for consumers. The median household income in Ohio is \$61,938, whereas the average cost of a new electric vehicle is \$58,000. These rules put new vehicles out of reach for middle-class Ohioans and inflate the entire used car market as a result.

It isn't just the consumer who will be made worse off by these new rules, but blue-collar workers as well. Nearly 200-thousand Ohioans are employed in the automotive sector, contributing \$12.1 billion to the state economy. Electric vehicles require 40% less labor to manufacture, putting thousands of family-sustaining jobs at risk. We refuse to reorient our economy for Biden's Green New Deal at the expense of Ohioans.

While the increased cost of vehicles and the potential loss of jobs are both good reasons to reconsider these drastic regulations, another reason is the lack of infrastructure in our power grid to support an increase in

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electric vehicles. Just to replace the fuels produced yearly at the average U.S. refinery, we would need two nuclear reactors the size of the David-Besse plant. To replace the energy output from every single oil refinery in the country would require 258 nuclear power plants. The fact is, our power grid is nowhere near close to taking on the energy supply currently provided by gas and diesel fuel. Even California, a state which has invested so much in infrastructure for electric vehicles has failed miserably by pushing too far, too fast. Last summer, the whole state suffered rolling blackouts on the hottest days of the summer because of insufficient power supply.

It would be a disaster for Ohio and the nation if these new EPA regulations are adopted. Consumers will lose choice, affordability, and practicality; manufactures will be forced to cut good-paying union jobs, and our power grid would struggle under the increased burden of 100% electric vehicles. We urge the committee to vote yes on this resolution to express support for consumer choice in the automotive marketplace and against federally mandated vehicle technology mandates that will harm all Ohioans.

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