



May 23, 2018

Dear President of the Senate, Senator Larry Obhof and Interim Speaker of the House Kirk Schuring:

As businesses, institutions, employers and investors in Ohio, we strongly oppose legislation that would weaken Ohio’s renewable and energy efficiency standards and efforts to allow commercial and industrial customers to opt out of energy saving programs. Weakening these policies will lead to higher energy costs and create prolonged uncertainty for businesses and investors operating in Ohio.

Clean energy standards help businesses and institutions cut energy costs, hedge against fuel price volatility, and help us stay competitive. They also help us plan ahead and make sound investment decisions into the future. For Ohio’s health care providers, strong standards are also about health – with clean energy leading to better patient outcomes. Undercutting the current standards will further constrain investment and growth in the state by removing the requirements for utilities to invest in some of the most competitive and least-cost energy resources—renewable energy and energy efficiency. We write to collectively express our strong opposition to any provisions which would weaken Ohio’s clean energy standards.

While the original standards were in place, investments in Ohio’s clean energy sector created thousands of new jobs [and stimulated over \\$160 million in annual GDP growth](#). In addition, ratepayers were saving hundreds of millions of dollars each year on their bills, and were on track to save over [\\$5 billion](#) by 2020. States with clean energy standards are better able to meet the needs of businesses and offer diverse energy options—helping Ohio compete in today’s global economy.

We recognize the significant economic opportunity presented by renewable energy and energy efficiency standards and urge you to vote against this legislation and protect Ohio’s clean energy economy. Please do not hesitate to contact us with any questions.

Sincerely,

Alliance for Industrial Efficiency, AMERESCO, Burton Snowboards, Cleveland Clinic, Clif Bar & Co., CREE, The Dow Chemical Company, Friends Fiduciary Corporation, Gap Inc, Ingersoll Rand, Johnson Controls, Mercy Health, Mount Carmel Health System, NAESCO, NEMA, Nestlé, SMACNA Cleveland Chapter, SMACNA, Trillium Asset Management, United Technologies

CC: Governor John Kasich
Members of the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee
Members of the Senate Public Utilities Committee
Members of the House of Representatives Energy and Natural Resources Committee
Members of the House of Representatives Public Utilities Committee