



Shaping Tomorrow's
Built Environment Today

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Sheila J. Hayter, P.E., FASHRAE
President

Reply to: Nat'l Renewable Energy Lab
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June 12, 2019

The Ohio Senate
1 E. Capital Street
Columbus, OH 43215

RE: H.B. 6, "The Clean Air Program Fund"

Dear Members of the Ohio Senate:

As the 2018 – 2019 ASHRAE President, I am writing to express concerns about H.B. 6, legislation that would effectively abolish the energy efficiency programs that the state established a decade ago.

ASHRAE, founded in 1894, is a global society of over 57,000 members, including about 1,500 in Ohio, committed to shaping tomorrow's built environment today. ASHRAE focuses on improving building systems, energy efficiency, indoor air quality, refrigeration and sustainability through research, standards writing, publishing, certification and continuing education. Additionally, ASHRAE has a long history of working with policymakers to promote the implementation of energy efficient design practices and sustainable technologies, most notably through ASHRAE Standards 90.1 and 189.1, which address sustainability in buildings and building sites and act as a benchmark for commercial building energy codes.

By eliminating the 2008 energy efficiency mandate on utilities and abolishing the mechanism that pays for Ohio's energy efficiency programs, H.B. 6 is putting at risk the immense benefits of these programs. Since Ohio established energy savings goals a decade ago, the Midwest Energy Efficiency Alliance has found that the state's program has saved enough electricity to power every home in Ohio for over 10 months, saving Ohio customers \$5.1 billion in energy costs. Additionally, Ohio utilities have stated to the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio that the state's energy efficiency standards and programs have saved customers twice what they cost. These economic benefits are a result of the state's energy efficiency programs over the past ten years and are critical to the citizens of Ohio. Passing H.B. 6 would put these benefits at risk and could cost Ohio taxpayers more in the long term.

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For these reasons, we urge the Senate to reconsider the bill in its current form. In re-evaluating these issues, ASHRAE would be pleased to serve as a resource as the state evaluates its energy future and share our expertise on the best ways to develop building standards, codes, and policies going forward. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me, or have your staff contact GovAffairs@ashrae.org. Thank you for your consideration of this important matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Shelia Hayter". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "S".

Shelia Hayter, PE, FASHRAE

ASHRAE President, SY2018 - 19