



Consumer Federation of America

1620 I Street, N.W., Suite 200 * Washington, DC 20006

May 6, 2019

Representative A. Nino Vitale
District 85
77 S. High St, 12th Floor
Columbus, OH 43215

Dear Chairman Vitale and Members of the Ohio House Energy and Natural Resources Committee:

Re: Substitute House Bill 6, Consumer Federation of America's Opposition to the Repeal of Ohio's Energy Efficiency Resource Standard

The Consumer Federation of America (CFA) is an association of more than 250 nonprofit consumer organizations across the U.S., including Ohio, established to advance the consumer interest through research, advocacy, and education.

CFA has long supported cost-effective energy and water efficiency appliance standards because of the tremendous consumer benefits they provide. These standards strengthen the minimum energy- and water-saving requirements of home appliances and electronics in order to save consumers money and energy on their utility bills; save water; reduce air pollution from electricity generation; mitigate the risk of electric shortages and blackouts; and drive down utility costs by avoiding the need for costly and unnecessary electric grid investments.

Utility energy efficiency programs play an important role in helping to spur the adoption of these cost-saving standards. They help drive the leading edge of technologies and make efficient products more widely available and accessible, especially among those residential and business consumers who are "hardest to reach." Thus, state policies like Ohio's Energy Efficiency Resource Standard, which ensures the availability of utility energy efficiency programs, are a critical component for realizing the \$2.4 trillion in utility bill savings that will be saved nationally thanks to the implementation of appliance standards through 2035.¹ For Ohio alone, the net present value of these savings is \$89.5 billion.²

Ohio's Energy Efficiency Resource Standard is a win-win-win for Ohio. It cuts energy and water waste, saves consumers and businesses money, and reduces air pollution. For this reason, we

¹ Energy-Saving States of America: How Every State Benefits from National Appliance Standards Andrew deLaski and Joanna Mauer, February 2017, <http://appliance-standards.org/sites/default/files/Appliances%20standards%20white%20paper%202%202-14-17.pdf>

² Ibid.

urge the Committee to support legislation that maintains Ohio's Energy Efficiency Resource Standard and to oppose any legislation that would undermine or repeal it. As you consider next steps with Substitute House Bill 6, CFA urges you to consider the consumer benefits that efficiency provides and to forge the way for the state of Ohio to be a leader on energy efficiency.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mel Hall-Crawford". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial "M" and "H".

Mel Hall-Crawford
Director, Energy Programs