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Ohio Conservative Energy Forum Strongly Supports Efforts to Repeal House Bill 6 Ohio deserves energy freedom, not energy corruption. It is time to repeal House Bill 6.

COLUMBUS, Ohio (July 23, 2020) – The <u>Ohio Conservative Energy Forum (OHCEF</u>), joins with many other conservative leaders around Ohio in calling for Speaker Larry Householder to resign. While OHCEF firmly believes in the presumption of innocence until proven guilty, it is clear that Speaker Householder cannot continue to preside over the Ohio House of Representatives.

It is unequivocally time to do the next right thing and repeal House Bill 6. The framework outlined earlier today by Representative Laura Lanese (R-Grove City) and Senator Stephanie Kunze (R-Hilliard), would do exactly that.

As OHCEF's executive director **Tyler Duvelius** testified on April 23, 2019, "Ohio's energy portfolio should not be focused on creating new, government-run, tax and spend programs, but rather on trimming back existing government regulation." Now we know that HB 6 was not only another government-run program funded on the backs of hardworking Ohioans, but possibly an illegal scheme to enrich Ohio elites and utilities.

"We have witnessed the worst example of how far some utilities will go to protect their stranglehold over Ohio ratepayers. We are grateful for the conservative leadership of Representative Lanese and Senator Kunze in calling for the repeal of HB 6. We look forward to strongly supporting their efforts" said Tyler Duvelius, OHCEF executive director.

Electricity should be subject to competition and held accountable to both the free market and the ratepayer. A quasi-monopoly that rigs the system is neither competitive nor accountable to anyone but itself – by definition it exists to sustain the monopoly in order to enrich its shareholders.

As Representative Lanese stated, "We need to start afresh with any energy policy going forward." It is time to re-examine Ohio's energy policy so that free-market competition and innovation is allowed to benefit all Ohioans. OHCEF stands ready to work with lawmakers to ensure ratepayers are no longer financially responsible for corrupt legislation. Ohio deserves energy freedom, not energy corruption.

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The Ohio Conservative Energy Forum (OHCEF) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that advocates for common-sense, market-based energy solutions that increase access to clean, affordable and reliable energy statewide. OHCEF was established in 2015 as a platform for Ohio conservatives to promote the benefits of an "all of the above" energy strategy that values clean energy and seeks to level the playing field among energy sources. OHCEF is a member of the Conservative Energy Network, a growing association of conservative state-level organizations that promote clean energy and energy waste reduction to stimulate economic growth and create jobs, while improving energy reliability and enhancing national and grid security. To learn more, visit <u>www.ohcef.org</u>.