



## *Resolution*

### **Office of the Ohio Consumers' Counsel Governing Board**

#### ***In Support of the Ohio General Assembly's Vision for an Energy Future Based on Competition by Power Plants, Not Subsidies by Consumers. And In Support of a Strong and Independent Office of the Ohio Consumers' Counsel to Represent and Educate Residential Utility Consumers for Consumer Protection***

- WHEREAS,** Electricity, natural gas, telephone, and water services are essential for Ohioans; and
- WHEREAS,** Ohio consumers should have retail electric service that is reliable, safe and reasonably priced; and
- WHEREAS,** The Ohio General Assembly deregulated power plants in 1999 to give Ohio families and businesses the benefits of lower prices and higher innovation through power plant competition, among other things; and
- WHEREAS,** Despite deregulation, Ohio consumers have paid more than \$15 billion in subsidies to the electric utilities since 1999; and
- WHEREAS,** House Bill 6 was introduced on April 12, 2019, to mandate subsidies of power plants (including nuclear plants), at a cost to Ohioans of \$300 million annually with no end date for the subsidies; and
- WHEREAS,** House Bill 246 was introduced on May 14, 2019, to "reform and modernize" the Office of the Ohio Consumers' Counsel (and the PUCO); and


**WHEREAS,** a strong and independent Office of the Ohio Consumers' Counsel is needed for the protection of millions of residential utility consumers and residential consumers of other PUCO-regulated providers in Ohio.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Governing Board of the Office of the Ohio Consumers' Counsel supports power plant competition and deregulation as envisioned by the Ohio General Assembly in 1999 to deliver lower prices and higher innovation to consumers.

**THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that the Governing Board of the Office of the Ohio Consumers' Counsel opposes any legislation (including House Bill 6) that would charge Ohio utility consumers (contrary to deregulation and the competitive generation markets that have emerged) to subsidize any type of generation (including nuclear power plants).

**THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that the Governing Board of the Office of the Ohio Consumers' Counsel opposes any legislation that would result in reductions, limits or weakening of the services and independence of the Office of the Ohio Consumers' Counsel for protection of millions of Ohio residential consumers.

I verify that this Resolution has been approved by the Governing Board of the Office of the Ohio Consumers' Counsel, this 21st day of May 2019.

  
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Stuart Young, Vice-Chair (Acting Chair)  
Governing Board of the Office of the Ohio Consumers' Counsel