

ENERGY ISSUE (SENATE BILL 223) BREAKING NEWS + UPDATE!

Senate Bill 223—as originally introduced—is proposed legislation that will be great for Ohio’s communities. It will enable property owners small and large to save energy, create jobs, and make greater use of Ohio’s home-grown, clean energy resources.

But recent proposed changes would give electric utility companies a windfall, and actually *shrink* the amount of clean energy efficiency that utilities offer to Ohioans.

Support Senate Bill 223’s original “As Introduced” language and form!

By law, investor-owned electric utility companies must invest in energy-saving energy efficiency technologies. A draft new version of SB 223, however, would allow Ohio utilities to avoid investments in energy efficiency. Instead, they could take credit for unrelated actions of private homeowners, businesses, and municipalities. When a utility helps a customer with new energy efficiency investments, that utility should receive credit for that action. The recent change to SB 223, however, would turn this notion on its head.

Under the change, a utility company could get credit for efficiency investments that it had nothing to do with. Should they get this credit? Of course not! Utilities deserve credit when they actually assist customers; no credit is deserved where utilities do nothing. That’s just common sense!

Reject the proposed changes to Senate Bill 223 – let’s go back to the original common sense Bill!

The original bill language strengthens Ohio’s energy future. Where utilities help communities get energy efficiency off the ground, they deserve credit. The Bill language should reflect this no-nonsense reality. If utilities help to get efficiency going, they should be able to achieve credit – if they don’t, no credit, or monetary value, should be available.

A Reasonable Compromise – Utility credit where utilities take action

In the alternative, language could be crafted for Senate Bill 223 that ensures that utilities can receive proportional credit for efficiency actions where a utility has contributed to the savings in some way – such a proposal would give utilities an opportunity to help make more efficiency possible in Ohio, and prevent undeserved windfalls.

Support SB 223’s original language, or a common sense compromise to ensure that utilities must actually help customers with efficiency to receive efficiency credit!

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