

**RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_ -2013**

**EXPRESSING** the support of the Council for the state of Ohio's Energy Efficiency Resource Standard.

WHEREAS, Cincinnati residents and businesses are challenged daily with uncertain economic conditions and rising energy costs; and

WHEREAS, energy efficiency is one of the cleanest and cheapest ways to address our energy needs, and is still the lowest-cost electric system resource, even in a time of very low natural gas prices; and

WHEREAS, broad based energy efficiency programs are crucial in helping consumers to make educated choices when it comes to their energy consumption; and

WHEREAS, energy efficiency is a labor-intensive industry that directly addresses economic challenges by putting money back into consumers' pockets, lowering business costs, stimulating production, and creating jobs; and

WHEREAS, Ohio has more than 5,400 organizations and businesses in the energy efficiency sector, generating \$2.1 billion annually, a significant portion of which is generated in Southwest Ohio; and

WHEREAS, investments in energy efficiency not only reduce overall expenditures on energy, but provide important environmental and health benefits to the community, including reductions to toxic air pollutants such as methane, nitrous oxide, nitrogen oxide, sulfur oxides, carbon monoxide, particulate matter, lead, and mercury; and

WHEREAS, the City of Cincinnati has undertaken upgrades to more than 69 of our municipal facilities, savings more than \$1 million on annual operating costs; and

WHEREAS, on April 23, 2008, Ohio passed SB 221 (creating an Energy Efficiency Resource Standard for the state of Ohio) with bipartisan support; and

WHEREAS, on May 24, 2012, Ohio passed SB 315 (reaffirming the state's Energy Efficiency Resource Standard) with bipartisan support; and

WHEREAS, requiring investor owned electric utilities to participate in energy efficiency programs has been shown to reduce Ohio's energy consumption, encourage the development of energy efficiency technologies within Ohio, and to create local jobs; and

WHEREAS, energy efficiency investments pursuant to Ohio's Energy Efficiency Resource Standard are made only when the efficiency investment cost is less than an equal

amount of energy, and the cost that consumers and businesses pay for these programs is typically far outweighed by the savings they provide; and

WHEREAS, FirstEnergy and others are seeking to have the state's Energy Efficiency Resource Standard halted, turning back the significant progress made since the adoption of Senate Bill 221 in 2008; and

WHEREAS, the City of Cincinnati selected First Energy Solutions as the City's electricity aggregation provider due in part to its commitment to provide 100% renewable energy to residents of Cincinnati; and

WHEREAS, this Council endorses legislation that promotes the development of energy efficiency within the City of Cincinnati and throughout the state of Ohio; and now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Cincinnati, State of Ohio:

Section 1. That City of Cincinnati supports the full implementation of the Ohio Energy Efficiency Resource Standard as adopted with bipartisan support in 2008.

Section 2. That the City of Cincinnati encourages investor owned electric utilities, especially those operating within Southwest Ohio, to take all cost-effective opportunities to meet and exceed the state's Energy Efficiency Resource Standard.

Section 3. That this Resolution be spread upon the minutes of Council and a copy sent to the following Governor John Kasich, Ohio Senate President Tom Niehaus, Speaker William Batchelder, Representative Peter Stautberg, Senator Shannon Jones, Senator Bill Seitz, Senator Troy Balderson, Senator Troy Uecker, Todd Snitchler, Chairman of the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio, and Craig Butler, Executive Assistant for Energy, the Environment, and Agriculture.

Passed: \_\_\_\_\_, 2013

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Mayor

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_

Clerk

Submitted by Councilmember Chris Seelbach