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RESOLUTION NO. 55 - 2020

EXPRESSING the support of the Mayor and Cincinnati City Council for the City Administration to proceed without delay to undertake any and all efforts, including through litigation and the lobbying of members of the Ohio General Assembly on behalf of the City of Cincinnati and its residents, to oppose the enactment and support the repeal of Ohio House Bill 6 and the House Bill 6 Clean Air Fund Rider.

WHEREAS, since its passage, Ohio House Bill 6 and the Clean Air Fund Rider have been criticized by good-governance, environmental, and consumer protection advocates for benefitting corporate interests at the expense of individual ratepayers and disincentivizing programs aimed at advancing the use of renewable energy sources; and

WHEREAS, following its passage, lobbyists supporting Ohio House Bill 6 have pleaded guilty to engaging in federal crimes to secure the law's passage, and former Speaker of the Ohio House of Representatives, Larry Householder, has been federally indicted and is currently being prosecuted for his role in securing votes in support of Ohio House Bill 6's passage; and

WHEREAS, in the absence of a repeal by the Ohio General Assembly, Ohio House Bill 6 and the Clean Air Fund Rider will go into effect on January 1, 2021; and

WHEREAS, beginning January 1, 2021, all ratepayers will be required to pay additional fees pursuant to the Clean Air Fund Rider that will automatically appear on their utility bills; and

WHEREAS, thousands of City of Cincinnati residents are already subject to disconnection of their utility service and this added fee will exacerbate their struggles and cause new residents to be subject to disconnection during the critical cold-weather months in the midst of a global pandemic; and

WHEREAS, multiple lawsuits have been filed seeking to enjoin the enactment of Ohio House Bill 6 and the Clean Air Fund Rider due to the inaction by the Ohio General Assembly; now, therefore,

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

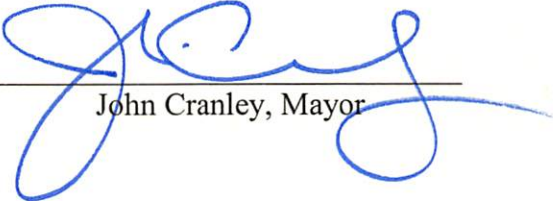
Section 1. That the Mayor and City Council express support for and ratify the City Administration's efforts on the part of City ratepayers to oppose and prevent the implementation of Ohio House Bill 6 and its Clean Air Fund Rider ("HB 6"), which efforts so far include public opposition to HB 6, the initiation of litigation, ongoing prosecution of existing litigation, and

coordination with the City's legislative delegation to delay, overturn, or otherwise halt HB 6 and ensure the City of Cincinnati and its residents are protected from legislation passed as a result of corruption and corporate greed.

Section 2. That this resolution be spread upon the minutes of Council.

Passed: December 14, 2020

Attest: 
Clerk


John Cranley, Mayor