



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS® OF OHIO

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For Immediate Release

December 27, 2016

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LWV Ohio Statement on Governor Kasich Vetoing Clean Energy Freeze

Columbus, OH – The League of Women Voters of Ohio joins environmental advocates in celebrating Governor Kasich’s veto of HB 554.

“While states such as Michigan and Illinois go forward with renewable energy, the Ohio Legislature seems determined to anchor us in the last century,” said Al Rosenfield, LWV Ohio Energy Lobbyist. “We are pleased that HB 554 has been vetoed by Governor Kasich.”

As part of a frenzied lame duck session, the Ohio General Assembly raced to pass HB 554 over many objections made by environmental advocates, business interests, and the governor. HB 554 would continue the freeze of renewable energy requirements that were originally put in place in 2008 and have been on hold since 2014.

Without action by the legislature by year's end, Ohio's renewable energy requirements that have been frozen would kick back in. The legislature passed HB 554 continuing the freeze by making the requirements voluntary goals through the end of 2018. Governor Kasich has been an outspoken opponent of continuing the freeze.

Now that Governor Kasich has vetoed the bill, the leaders of the General Assembly must decide whether to attempt a rarely-utilized veto override. We urge the General Assembly to sustain the veto, so that Ohio can move forward.

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