TO: Members of the Ohio Senate

FROM: Zack Frymier, Director, Energy & Environmental Policy

DATE: May 1, 2019

RE: Floor Vote on Senate Bill 33

The Ohio Chamber of Commerce is pleased to support the strengthening of protections for critical infrastructure. This infrastructure is vital to a well-functioning economy. Retailers, hospitals, schools, and homes all rely on electricity, safe drinking water, telecommunications networks and the efficient transportation of products that this infrastructure provides. While Ohio fortunately has not faced the sort of disruptions seen in other jurisdictions, taking this proactive step would protect Ohio’s economy and improve our business climate. As a result, your vote on SB 33 will be reflected in the Ohio Chamber’s General Assembly Voting Record.

Ohio’s abundant natural resources, such as Lake Erie and the Ohio River, lead to ports and rail facilities that businesses rely on. The continued growth of Ohio’s economy depends on businesses being assured that capital investments in infrastructure in our state are safe from physical damage.

Deterring and punishing those who seek to tamper or destroy these, or any piece of critical infrastructure, is necessary to allow job growth to continue and to protect the communities and residents. Tampering with this infrastructure could lead to disruptions in the services and comforts that have come to define life in a modern economy.

SB 33 strengthens protections for critical infrastructure to better safeguard public safety and the environment. The Ohio Chamber urges you to vote “yes” on SB 33. If you have any questions about this bill or the Ohio Chamber’s position, please contact me at 614-228-4201 or zfrymier@ohiochamber.com.