



## *Resolution*

### **Office of the Ohio Consumers' Counsel Governing Board**

#### **In Honor of Michael Smalz**

- WHEREAS,** **Michael Smalz** recently retired after practicing law for over 40 years as a legal aid attorney, including his service since 1988 with the Ohio Poverty Law Center; and
- WHEREAS,** **Michael Smalz** and the Ohio Poverty Law Center have worked jointly with the Office of the Ohio Consumers' Counsel on a number of issues of significance to residential utility consumers over the years; and
- WHEREAS,** **Michael Smalz**, has served his organization's stated mission "the Ohio Poverty Law Center is a nonprofit law office advocating for policies to protect and expand the legal rights of low-income Ohioans; and
- WHEREAS,** **Michael Smalz** in joint work with the Office of the Ohio Consumers' Counsel and legal aid advocates, has made a significant contribution to implementation of a number of utility programs providing assistance to low-income Ohioans including but not limited to: the Percentage of Income Payment Plus program for low-income electric and natural gas consumers; the Lifeline assistance program for low-income telephone consumers; and utility-funded bill payment assistance (fuel funds) for low-income consumers; as well as contributing to the consumer effort to protect Ohio consumers from the reselling (submetering) of utility services; and
- WHEREAS,** **Michael Smalz** – and his advocacy for low-income and other Ohio utility consumers – will be greatly missed; and
- WHEREAS,** The Governing Board of the Ohio Consumers' Counsel would like to publicly acknowledge the many contributions of **Michael Smalz** to advocacy for Ohio utility consumers.
- THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Governing Board of the Ohio Consumers' Counsel commends **Michael Smalz** for his many contributions in representing Ohio's utility consumers; and
- BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that on this 18th day of July in the year two thousand seventeen, the Governing Board of the Ohio Consumers' Counsel wishes **Michael Smalz** success and happiness in all of his future endeavors.

I verify that the Ohio Consumers' Counsel Governing Board approved this Resolution on the 18th day of July 2017.

Gene Krebs, Chairman  
Ohio Consumers' Counsel Governing Board