

# CLEAN TIMES

~ Textile Care Professionals ~

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## Contact Your State Representative Today SB310 Would Halt Ohio Energy Mandates Now



Ohio drycleaners need affordable and reliable energy to operate and remain competitive. But right now, your access to affordable energy is at risk due to Ohio's six-year old energy efficiency and renewable energy mandates.

Fortunately, the Ohio House is considering Senate Bill 310, legislation that would protect your business and all Ohio employers from looming electricity cost spikes. Despite opponents' arguments to the contrary, an independent study shows that these energy mandates have **NOT** helped Ohio's ratepayers, but have cost them over \$1 billion in compliance since 2009. These mandates increase annually through 2025- imagine how much your drycleaner will have to pay to comply by then! *Forecasts say Ohio customers could be paying as much as \$500 million a year by 2020.*

**Something must be done to protect Ohio cleaners from these escalating compliance costs.** SB 310 is a reasonable and common sense approach to making sure these mandates don't jeopardize our recovering economy.

The House is set to vote on SB 310 possibly as soon as **this Wednesday**, May 28 and opponents are relentless in their effort to convince the legislature to do nothing.

Click [here](#) to send your State Representative an e-mail asking him to pass SB 310!

## Ohio Business Community Applauds May Election Results



May's primary election was generally positive for free enterprise in Ohio. Of the 21 pro-business candidates endorsed by the Ohio Chamber of Commerce Political Action Committee (OCCPaC), 20 won their races and will now compete in the

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General Election. Additionally, State Issue 1 passed easily with 65 percent of the vote.

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## BWC Board Clears \$91 Million Rate Cut For Employers

The Ohio Bureau of Workers' Compensation (BWC) Board of Directors made official another 6.3 percent, \$91 million rate cut in FY15, bringing four-year savings for private employers to \$409 million, the bureau said.

BWC Administrator/CEO Stephen Buehrer announced the proposed reduction in April and voiced confidence at last month's board meeting that the \$91 million represented "good actuarial work." (See *The Hannah Report*, 4/23/14.)

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## Cleaners Must Deal With Items Left Behind



In the film *American Hustle*, a swindling Sydney Prosser (Amy Adams) outfits herself in fanciful frocks lifted from an unlikely source: the unclaimed high-end stash in a dry cleaner's storage room.

Up for 10 Academy Awards, including one for costume design, the comedy-drama makes a splash with its colorful 1970s fashions.

Among the standouts: Sydney's furs and plunging-neckline gowns from the dry cleaner owned by her lover and fellow con artist (Christian Bale).

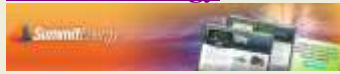
Such a rags-to-riches montage is pure Hollywood. Do such castaway treasures exist in real life?

"It is absolutely amazing what is left behind," said Mike Hill, plant manager for Caskey Cleaners in German Village - who estimated that 10 to 15 percent of dry-cleaning orders go unretrieved.

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## Megan McArdle Defends Dry Cleaners Pricing



Ladies, have you ever complained that the dry cleaner charges more for your shirts than for your husband's shirts -- even though your shirts are smaller?

The president feels your pain:

"We'll talk about dry cleaners next, right," Obama said, prompting laughter from the audience, which was full of women, "because I know that -- I don't know why it costs more for Michelle's blouse than my shirt." Asked about the disparities between what men and women pay for dry cleaning during the daily briefing a little more than an hour later, White House press secretary Jay Carney replied "It's terrible."

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## Appeals Court Blasts BWC in Group Rating Decision



An appeals court has taken the Bureau of

Workers' Compensation to task in an annually harsh, 3-0 ruling that largely upheld a lower court decision ordering the agency to refund nearly \$860 million to certain employers.

Ohio's 8<sup>th</sup> District Court of Appeals in Cleveland said the trial court correctly determined that the BWC operated an unlawful rating system that granted excessive premium discounts to employers participating in the group rating system at the expense of nongroup-rated businesses.

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