



## IOWA INTERFAITH **POWER & LIGHT**

May 1, 2018

Dear Governor Reynolds:

Iowa's faithful are investing in energy efficiency and using the money they save to better their communities and our state. Their investments are informed by faith and driven by the economics of their congregations. They effectively use the existing energy efficiency programs to repair their buildings and replace aging, inefficient equipment. Current law enables an immediate investment with significant cost savings over time. Our communities of faith need you to veto SF 2311 in order to keep this investment model available, especially in rural Iowa where many congregations struggle with older buildings including churches, schools, health care facilities, and community centers in desperate need of facility improvements.

Iowa Interfaith Power & Light is in dozens of congregations around the state every year helping Iowans put their faith into action on energy efficiency. Recently a pastor shared how their church benefited from \$21,000 in rebates and incentives from their utility company to do energy efficiency. Over the past decade, their church has saved \$125,000 in utility bills and reduced their energy use by 60 percent.

Iowa, under your leadership, is a national leader in energy. Through bipartisan efforts, Iowans developed one of the most effective energy efficiency programs in the country. The Catholic Diocese of Des Moines is building on your leadership. Two weeks ago, Bishop Pates announced the Catholic Energies program. Using existing law and programs, Des Moines will be one of the first dioceses in the country to offer an energy audit for any parish, school, or other church owned building such as a health facility. Catholic Energies will help them identify efficiency investments, implement a plan, and hire local contractors and suppliers to put that plan into practice. Your signature on SF 2311 making it law, undermines programs like Catholic Energies and Iowa's opportunity to continue to lead the nation in energy innovation.

Iowa congregations provide concrete examples of how Iowans are investing in a proven strategy that keeps rates low, reduces actual energy demand, and allows congregations to hire community members to provide HVAC efficiency improvements. Congregations invest the money they save in their mission, improving their communities and benefiting our entire state.

We need your leadership to show that Iowans, including our communities of faith, are using these programs as an investment. Vetoing SF 2311 and advancing your Iowa Power Plan are powerful ways to communicate that message. Our organization stands ready to help you lift up that message for Iowa.

Sincerely,

Brian G. Campbell, Ph.D.  
Board President

Matt Russell  
Executive Director