

To: The Honorable Members of the House Natural Resources, Environment, Tourism and Outdoor Recreation

Committee

From: Michelle Batora, Executive Director, Michigan Cleaners Association

Date March 9, 2023

Re: Opposition to House Bill 4083 (as introduced)

On behalf of the of the Michigan Cleaners Association Board of Directors, we wish to express our opposition to HB 4083 as currently introduced, which would ban the use of PERC for drycleaners in Michigan.

This ban would create a significant financial impact on those companies to make this required equipment transition. These cleaners are small businesses and active parts of their communities, creating jobs and supporting local charities and events. It is likely this type of mandate will put many of these already struggling cleaners out of business and leave communities without this service.

The dry cleaners in the state of Michigan continue to struggle with the customer base coming back to pre-pandemic numbers as companies have now implemented work from home policies that impact the industry.

We appreciate that the sponsor, Rep. Rogers, has reached out to us and look forward to working with her and this committee to try and find a solution that balances the concerns of our members with those of environmental advocates. We would ask that you give us an opportunity to work together before moving this legislation forward.

Please feel free to reach out to me or members of my board with any questions or concerns.

## MCA Board of Directors:

Stathi Afendoulis

Afendoulis Cleaners, Grand Rapids

Jeff Bradford

Bradford's Cleaners, Petoskey

David Clark

Wash King Cleaners, Saginaw

Jon Conant

Master Dry Cleaners, Traverse City

Steve Fry

Presidential Cleaners, Brighton

**Robert Marks** 

Ruthy's Cleaners, Owosso

Craig Ward

Lipke Kentex Hesse, Caledonia

**David Barlow** 

Jan's Professional Cleaners, Clio

Ann Chaffee

Maurer's Sanitary Cleaners, Lansing

Scott Clark

A&B Equipment, Saginaw

**Andy Curtis** 

Curtis Cleaners, Lowell

**Rob Hellier** 

Seitz The Fresher Company, Lake Orion

Tom Maurer

Maurer's Sanitary Cleaners, Lansing