

BEFORE THE HOUSE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, COMMERCE AND LABOR
COMMITTEE
TESTIMONY OF RIC OXENDER ON BEHALF OF THE OHIO CONFERENCE OF AAA
CLUBS
February 28, 2017

Chairman Young, Vice Chair DeVitis and ranking member Lepore-Hagan, I am presenting written testimony on behalf of the Ohio Conference of AAA Clubs, which consists of the six AAA Clubs across Ohio, and its over 2 million Ohio motorists.

AAA strongly supports HB 42. Unsafe tires are a danger to motorists operating a vehicle with such tires on their vehicle, as well as a danger to other motorists should the operator lose control of the vehicle during a tire incident. It is important to protect motorists from the installation of such unsafe tires and the bill does very well in defining what an unsafe tire actually is.

The installation of these tires is a major concern of AAA. This bill will go far in protecting motorists from having unsafe tires installed on their vehicles, while still allowing the sale of scrap tires for recycling.

Consumers purchasing used tires are often not aware of the actual condition of the tire(s) they are purchasing, particularly if there is no visible damage. This bill will help to ensure that the seller of the tire has made sure it has been repaired properly, or, if obtained in a condition that cannot be repaired properly, or has unlawful tread wear, that the tire should not be mounted on the customers wheel, but only disposed of as scrap.

The bill as introduced last session did cause AAA concern because it would not have allowed our roadside assistance personnel to make a temporary repair to a flat tire and get the motorist off the side of the road and out of danger as soon as possible. When making this repair, we inform the motorist that this is a temporary repair only and that they should take the tire to a reputable dealer at the first opportunity for a permanent repair or replacement. In fact, if our member takes the tire to one of our AAA garages, we will fix it free of charge.

The bill as now drafted will allow such actions by our roadside assistance personnel.

Thank you, Mr., Chairman and members of the Committee for allowing AAA to express our support for this legislation.