

BEFORE THE HOUSE GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY AND  
OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

PROPONENT TESTIMONY ON S.B. 223

JANUARY 30, 2018

Chairman Blessing, Vice Chair Reineke, and ranking member Clyde, I am Ric Oxender of Oxender and Associates and am submitting testimony on behalf of the Ohio Conference of AAA Clubs, which consists of the six AAA Clubs across Ohio, and its almost 3 million Ohio motorists.

AAA strongly supports SB223. 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 goes 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, some of our clubs offer this service for free if our member takes the tire to one of our AAA service centers.

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 opinion on this important legislation.

