



March 20, 2019

Chairman Hackett
House Insurance Committee
Ohio Senate
1 Capital Square
Columbus, Ohio 43215

Dear Chairman Hackett,

On behalf of the Ohio Association of Health Plans (OAHP), thank you for the opportunity to offer written testimony on Senate Bill 9, legislation that requires health plans to release certain claim information to group plan policyholders.

The Ohio Association of Health Plans (OAHP) is the state's leading trade association representing the health insurance industry. OAHP's member plans provide health benefits to more than 9 million Ohioans through employer-sponsored coverage, the individual insurance market, and public programs such as Medicare, Medicaid and the Federal Insurance Marketplace. Our members offer a broad range of health insurance products to Ohioans in the commercial marketplace and are committed partners in public programs.

Through SB 227 in the 132nd General Assembly, OAHP worked diligently with the Ohio Association Health Underwriters (OAHU) to ensure that employees HIPAA protected claims data were protected. For over a year, OAHP worked in collaboration with OAHU to develop language to provide employers the information they need to shop for more affordable health insurance while ensuring the privacy of employees' health information. This collaborative language is the language you see before you in SB 9.

We appreciate the efforts of OAHU and the bill's sponsor to help ensure that consumers protected health information is shared in compliance with HIPAA.

With this information, we believe Ohio is well positioned to advance additional transparency policy initiatives including provider and drug price transparency that will further support employers in their quest to secure quality and affordable health care coverage. We look forward to working with Ohio's employers to develop policy measures that will address the underlying issue for Ohioans – the affordability of health care.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on SB 9.

Sincerely,

Miranda Creviston Motter

President and CEO
Ohio Association of Health Plans