



OHIO
ASSOCIATION *for*
JUSTICE
TRIAL LAWYERS HELPING PEOPLE

655 Metro Place South, Suite 140 Dublin, OH 43017
Phone 614.341.6800 • Fax 614.341.6810

October 24, 2017

The Honorable Kevin Bacon
Chair, Senate Judiciary Committee
Ohio Senate

Dear Chair Bacon, Vice Chair Dolan, Ranking Member Thomas and members,

The Ohio Association for Justice, the statewide bar association for trial attorneys, is pleased to express its strong support for SB 152, legislation that updates Ohio's structured settlement protection law. (The OAJ previously submitted a letter in support of HB 223, legislation that is almost identical to SB 152.)

Our member attorneys have a keen interest in preserving their clients' judgments, and structured settlements are, in many cases, the most efficient means of protecting their legal recovery.

Earlier this year OAJ, along with the National Structured Settlements Trade Association, the National Association of Settlement Purchasers, the Ohio Judicial Conference, and the Ohio Insurance Institute, participated in a series of in-depth discussions that resulted in this proposal. The legislation before you draws on a national model bill produced by the National Conference of Insurance Legislators and blends it with Ohio's current statute, which was among the first in the nation when it was enacted seventeen years ago.

In our judgment, SB 152 strikes the right balance between preserving our client's assets while providing our client with a reasonable measure of flexibility to alter their settlement.

We thank you, the members of the Judiciary Committee, for your consideration and support of this legislation.

Sincerely,

John Van Doorn

