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**Written Testimony on House Bill 675
House Insurance Committee
November 30, 2022
Holly Holtzen, State Director, AARP Ohio**

Good morning Chairman Brinkman, Vice Chair Lampton, Ranking Member Miranda and distinguished members of the House Insurance Committee.

My name is Holly Holtzen, and I serve as the State Director for AARP, Ohio. AARP, with 1.5 million members in Ohio, is a nonpartisan, nonprofit, nationwide organization that helps empower people to choose how they live as they age, strengthens communities, and fights for the issues that matter most to families, such as healthcare, employment and income security, retirement planning, affordable utilities and protection from financial abuse.

AARP is here today to express our opposition to House Bill 675, which would roll back existing safeguards against the unsolicited marketing of Medicare supplemental policies. If enacted, House Bill 675 would strip the state's Superintendent of Insurance of the existing ability to prohibit unsolicited marketing of such policies via (1) Print solicitation such as leaflets, flyers, or door hangers left at residences or on motor vehicles; (2) In-person solicitations of individuals at the individual's residence or in public or common areas such as parking lots, hallways, lobbies, or sidewalks; and (3) Telephonic or electronic solicitation such as electronic voicemail messages, text messages, or direct social media messages.

AARP supports strong consumer protection policies that safeguard all of Ohio's 50+ population, including those that protect Ohioans 65 and older from unwanted and bothersome solicitation of Medicare supplemental policies. Even with an amendment allowing the Superintendent of Insurance to continue prohibiting in-person solicitation at nursing homes and residential care facilities, AARP opposes the eroding of the existing broader protections against unwanted marketing that would occur if House Bill 675 is enacted.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in opposition to House Bill 675.

