



May 26, 2021

The Honorable Bob Hackett
Chairman
Senate Insurance Committee
Senate Building
1 Capitol Square, 1st floor
Columbus, OH 43215

RE: Substitute House Bill 75 – Written Proponent Testimony

Dear Chairman Hackett:

The Ohio Manufacturers' Association (OMA) appreciates the opportunity to provide written proponent testimony on Substitute House Bill 75 (HB 75), the Bureau of Workers' Compensation's fiscal years 2022–2023 budget.

Throughout the years, the OMA has consistently advocated for an efficient and effective workers' compensation system that benefits workers, employers, and the economy of the state. We believe several practical amendments within this budget bolster these efforts. Notably, the bill includes the following improvements:

- Moving the statute of limitations for occupational disease claims to one year from two years. This alignment would provide consistency across the statute of limitations with all other claim types, which were recently amended to also be one year.
- Creating uniformity with permanent partial disability filing timelines for temporary total disability compensation and for claims where wages are paid in lieu of compensation.
- Requiring claimants who were previously denied a permanent disability benefit from the Industrial Commission to show new and changed circumstances before reapplying for that benefit.

These provisions contained within HB 75 help improve Ohio's workers' compensation system and we ask the committee for its favorable consideration of the bill.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit this written testimony. Please feel free to contact me should you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Rachael Carl
Director, Public Policy Services