



April 28, 2022

Chairman Bob Hackett  
Senate Standing Committee on Insurance  
Statehouse Room 132  
Columbus, OH 43215

Dear Chairman Hackett, Vice-Chairman Romanchuk and Ranking Minority Member Craig:

On behalf of the Board of Directors and membership of the American Fraternal Alliance, I appreciate the opportunity to share our support for House Bill 575, legislation that would strengthen fraternal life insurers doing business in Ohio. The American Fraternal Alliance is a national trade association representing more than 50 fraternal benefit societies operating in the United States, including seven fraternal societies domiciled in Ohio and over 379,000 policyholders across the state.

Fraternal benefit societies are 501(c)(8) member-owned organizations that provide life insurance products to help members secure their financial futures and fund a variety of benefits – from college scholarships to financial literacy programs – and community service projects. For more than 100 years, fraternal societies have served as a different kind of insurance provider and one of North America's largest volunteer networks at 7 million members strong. In Ohio, fraternal benefit society members contributed more than \$19 million to local communities and volunteered 1.3 million hours of their time in 2021 alone. Enactment of House Bill 575 will help ensure that they are able to continue to build stronger communities and protect families for years to come.

Similar legislation has been enacted in Minnesota, Pennsylvania, Wisconsin, and Texas. This common sense, pro-consumer bill protects individuals from potential loss should the fraternal insurer reach a regulatory insolvency trigger. This bill will strengthen the entire fraternal community, allowing societies to better fulfill their financial and service missions in Ohio and across the country.

I urge you to support HB 575 so that fraternal societies can better serve both their members and those in need for decades to come. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Allison H. Koppel".

Allison Koppel  
CEO  
American Fraternal Alliance