



Senator George Lang
Senate Bill 8
Sponsor Testimony
Senate Transportation Committee
February 28, 2023

Chairwoman Kunze, Vice Chair Reineke, Ranking Member Antonio, and other members of the Senate Transportation Committee, thank you for the opportunity to provide sponsor testimony on Senate Bill 8, which regards motor vehicle dealer liability for vehicle history reports.

Senate Bill 8, which is a reintroduction of SB 342 from the 134th General Assmebly, specifies that a motor vehicle dealer is not liable for any representations, errors, omissions, or inaccuracies contained in a third-party motor vehicle history report, such as Carfax, when providing the report to a purchaser, lessee, or any other third party connected to the sale or potential sale of a vehicle.

The bill specifies that a third-party motor vehicle history report is any formal or informal report prepared by a person or entity *other than a motor vehicle dealer* that relates to one or more of the following:

- A motor vehicle's current ownership or a motor vehicle's certificate of title transfer history
- A brand on a motor vehicle's certificate of title
- A lien on a motor vehicle
- A motor vehicle's service, maintenance, or repair history
- A motor vehicle's condition
- A motor vehicle's accident or collision history, or
- A motor vehicle's mileage

The reason my joint sponsor, Senator Schuring, and I introduced this bill is because while vehicle history reports can be helpful and informative for customers, they may not always be accurate. This is because vehicle history report providers generally gather the information from various sources – repair shops, government title/registration agencies, etc., and these

sources may not update the information in real time and may include incorrect information due to errors. Vehicle History report providers rely entirely on the entities who provide the data. It is not uncommon for vehicle history providers to disclaim any inaccuracies in the reports dealers and consumers purchase.

Under Senate Bill 8, motor vehicle dealers would only be responsible for vehicle information they shared with the vehicle history report provider. This bill, supported by the Ohio Automobile Dealers Association, strikes the appropriate balance of helping customers make informed decisions when leasing or buying a motor vehicle, and protecting the motor vehicle dealers from liability for information *they did not* provide to vehicle history report providers. I had the privilege of meeting with some of the local auto dealers in my district, and they too support Senate Bill 8. In short, Senate Bill 8 is a pro-business and common sense piece of legislation.

I greatly appreciate the opportunity to come before the committee today to testify on Senate Bill 8, and I would be happy to take any questions. Thank you.