



June 17, 2025

Chairman Brian Lampton
House Insurance Committee
1 Capitol Square
Columbus, OH 43215

RE: House Bill 105 – Written Proponent Testimony

Dear Chairman Lampton:

The Ohio Manufacturers' Association (OMA) was created in 1910 with the mission to protect and grow Ohio manufacturing. Today, it has nearly 1,300 members representing the largest economic sector in the state, which contributed more than \$133 billion to Ohio's economy in 2023. According to the most recent data, nearly 700,000 Ohioans work in manufacturing, and manufacturing has the largest payroll of any Ohio economic sector.

The OMA is appreciative of the ongoing work by this committee to evaluate substitute House Bill 105 and has testified in support of the legislation, recognizing that it addresses two types of third-party litigation funding: *consumer* litigation funding (less than \$400,000) and *commercial* litigation funding (\$400,000 or more). OMA's comments herein are focused on third-party commercial litigation funding as the lawsuits against its members will likely attract third-party commercial litigation funders.

One of the crucial components of this bill is the requirement for third-party commercial litigation financiers to disclose their funding agreements. This legislation will provide a fair playing field for those involved in litigation by unveiling the parties with a financial interest in the outcome of a case. Currently, plaintiffs are able to proceed in secrecy without having to disclose if anyone else is funding their litigation.

Litigation is costly for defendants – both financially and in terms of lost opportunity costs. The cost of litigation to defendants will only rise as third-party funders enter the picture by increasing the financial resources available to plaintiffs. At a minimum, defendants should be entitled to know whether someone unrelated to the plaintiff is funding (and likely controlling) the litigation against them. House Bill 105 does that.

The OMA appreciates the opportunity to provide proponent testimony on House Bill 105. We ask the committee to accept the substitute bill and vote the bill out of committee.

Sincerely,

James Lee
Managing Director, Public Policy Services
The Ohio Manufacturers' Association