



Senator George Lang

Sponsor Testimony - Senate Bill 306

**Senate Financial Institutions, Insurance, and
Technology Committee**

November 4th, 2025

Chairman Wilson, Ranking Member Craig, and members of the Senate Financial Institutions, Insurance, and Technology Committee, thank you for the opportunity to provide sponsor testimony on Senate Bill 306: a measure that seeks to update Ohio's insurance statute.

Every General Assembly, I have been honored to offer before you the most captivating, entertaining legislation that updates Ohio's insurance code to ensure our state remains competitive.

But all jokes aside, there are often revisions needed every General Assembly to ensure our state protects its insurance industry, remains competitive among other states, and is attractive for prospective investment. That is what Senate Bill 306 seeks to do.

Importantly, the sub bill adopted today adds the unaffiliated agents provision that I will touch on later. That provision was meant to be included in the as-introduced language, but was mistakenly left out in drafting.

Including that provision, there are six main updates to our state's insurance laws in this bill that I will briefly touch on:

E-Signature:

Senate Bill 306 clarifies that any signature requirement placed on an insurer may be accomplished electronically. This provision was drafted in consultation with ODI.

Repair Shop Consumer Protections:

This bill adds a variety of consumer protections prohibiting repair shops from holding vehicles from customers, including preventing a repair shop from

making a consumer sign a contract that restricts equitable and statutory mechanisms to retrieve the vehicle.

Towing Updates:

This bill also revises the towing statute with necessary technical changes regarding actions brought in consultation with the towing industry.

Special Purpose Financial Captives:

Senate Bill 306 codifies existing permitted practice to promote transparency. This language was also written in consultation with ODI.

Unaffiliated Agent License:

This update, added in today's sub bill, will allow an unaffiliated agent to sell, solicit, or negotiate variable life and variable annuity products without a line of authority under the agent statute, and was again, written in consultation with ODI.

Continued Updates to the Assigned Risk Plan:

Lastly, Senate Bill 306 provides continued updates to the assigned risk plan, including strengthened anti-fraud measures, codified provisions of the plan manual to strengthen compliance, and clarification that fraud against

the plan is a violation of the insurance fraud criminal statute.

In Ohio, we are fortunate to have a robust and competitive insurance marketplace that is critical to our overall economic production and competitiveness.

The changes contained within this bill will help ensure that Ohio remains a premier state for insurance, which will continue to yield benefits for both businesses and consumers and help ensure Ohio is the most business-friendly state in the country.

Mr. Chairman, thank you again for allowing me to present sponsor testimony on the most **entertaining** bill of every GA, Senate Bill 306, and I am happy to answer any questions that the committee may have.