



June 18, 2025

Chairman Nathan Manning  
Senate Judiciary Committee  
1 Capitol Square  
Columbus, OH 43215

**RE: Senate Bill 10 – Written Proponent Testimony**

Dear Chairman Manning:

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 writes in support of Senate Bill 10, 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.

OMA members have historically supported legislation that provides a fair and balanced civil justice system and Senate Bill 10 is designed to do just that by leveling the playing field. For decades, defendants in Ohio state and federal courts have been required to disclose to plaintiffs whether insurance is available to cover all or part of a settlement or judgment. On the other hand, plaintiffs have been able to proceed in secrecy, without having to disclose if anyone else is funding (or has a financial interest in) their litigation. Senate Bill 10's disclosure provisions lift this veil of secrecy.

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. Senate Bill 10 does that.

The OMA appreciates the opportunity to provide proponent testimony on Senate Bill 10 and thanks the bill sponsor and the Chairman for their work in achieving a substitute bill on an issue that has been debated over the course of multiple General Assemblies. The OMA encourages the committee to support this piece of legislation.

Sincerely,

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