



## OHIO TIRE & AUTOMOTIVE ASSOCIATION

50 West Broad Street, Suite 1111  
Columbus, Ohio 43215  
Tel.: (614) 221-7950  
Fax: (614) 221-7020

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House Commerce and Labor Committee  
Ohio House of Representatives  
1 Capitol Square  
Columbus, OH 43215

Dear Chairman Young,

On behalf of the Ohio Tire and Automotive Association, I write to express our support for House Bill 42, legislation to ban unsafe used tires. The Ohio Tire & Automotive Association (OTAA) is a statewide trade association representing the interests of Ohio tire and automotive dealers, their suppliers, and other members of Ohio's tire industry. Since 1967 OTAA has represented the business interests of its members ranging from small family owned shops to large tire dealers with locations across the entire state.

Our members' number one priority is the safety of our customers. House bill 42 puts forth sensible measures that will prohibit the sale of unsafe used tires while protecting both consumers and businesses alike. Specifically, HB 42 bans the sale of tires with the following characteristics: worn-out tires (tread depth measurers 2/32nds inch or less); damage that exposes a tire's inner components such as body plies or the steel belts; inner liner damage; tires with sidewall repairs, repairs to the belt-edge area of the tire, repairs made to punctures larger than ¼ inch, repairs that do not seal a puncture from the inside of the tire through to the outside; and damaged tires treated with a tire sealant but not subsequently repaired to industry standards. In addition, the bill stipulates that the installation of an unsafe used tire is a violation of the Consumer Sales Practice Act. Under this provision, offenders can be fined up to one thousand dollars per violation. Codifying the definition of an unsafe used tire we believe is a positive step in decreasing the risk to consumers.

Our organization worked closely with the bill sponsors and the Rubber Manufacturers' Association to craft legislation that would protect consumers and penalize bad actors, while also avoiding regulation that would inadvertently harm reputable businesses.

In closing, our members have always been committed to selling safe, reliable tires and we believe all dealers in the State of Ohio should be as well. For these reason we fully support the proposed legislation and applaud the bill sponsors for bringing it forward.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer our support for this piece of legislation. Should you have any questions, please contact our office at any time.

Respectfully,

Alex T. Boehnke  
Legislative Director

CC: Members of the House Commerce and Labor Committee