



February 16, 2022

Chairman Bob Hackett
Senate Insurance Committee
1 Capital Square
Columbus, Ohio 43215

Dear Chairman Hackett,

On behalf of the Ohio Association of Health Plans (OAHP), thank you for the opportunity to offer written interested party testimony on SB 273, which adopts the National Association of Insurance Commissioners' Guaranty Fund Model Act.

OAHP is the state's leading trade association representing the health insurance industry. Our member plans provide health benefits to more than nine million Ohioans through employer-sponsored coverage, the individual insurance market, and public programs such as Medicare, Medicaid, and the Federal Insurance Marketplace. Our members offer a broad range of health insurance products to Ohioans in the commercial marketplace and are committed partners in public programs.

OAHP traditionally does not take a formal position on guaranty fund legislation. However, we do want to address the importance of financial stability in the insurance industry, as it relates to SB 273.

Long-term care insurance is rarely written by health plans. Our industry writes less than 3% of the long-term care policies; despite this, health plans are required to cover almost 75% of the costs of such insolvencies. The health insurance industry cannot and should not be expected to bear such a disproportionate share of the burden.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on SB 273. We look forward to continued collaboration with policymakers and other stakeholders on health insurance industry matters.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "K O'Reilly".

Kelly O'Reilly
President and CEO