

September 28, 2017

The Honorable Jay Hottinger Ohio Senate 1 Capitol Square, Ground Floor Columbus Ohio, 43215

Dear Chairman Hottinger:

On behalf of the Ohio Association of REALTORS® (nearly 31,000 members), I would like to express our support for House Bill 52. We believe this legislation will benefit not only our clients, but anyone who has recently purchased a new home or piece of property in this state.

House Bill 52 will bring needed regulation to those suppliers who solicit fees from consumers to receive a copy of their deed. Too often homeowners are misled by official looking documents and pay fees well in excess of what their county recorder would charge. The nature of the solicitations cause the consumer to falsely believe that the purchase of the deed is a requirement of the property transfer. Anyone who would like a copy of their deed for any reason can obtain that from their local recorder for very nominal costs.

We believe House Bill 52 provides much needed consumer protection and is an attempt at stopping those who seek to take advantage of unaware individuals. The Ohio Association of Realtors ® supports House Bill 52 and we believe this bill, if enacted, will protect homebuyers across Ohio.

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Sincerely,

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