



Property Casualty Insurers
Association of America

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Jeffrey Junkas
Assistant Vice President, State Government Relations

December 4, 2017

The Honorable Joe Uecker
Chair, Local Government, Public Safety and Veterans Affairs Committee
Ohio Senate
Statehouse
1 Capitol Square, 1st Flr.
Columbus, OH 43215

RE: SUPPORT Senate Bill 223, to Prohibit the Installation of Unsafe Used Tires

Dear Chairman Uecker:

The Property Casualty Insurers Association of America (PCI) is a trade association representing nearly 1,000 property and casualty insurance companies that together write 45 percent of the auto insurance in Ohio. We respectfully submit the following comments in support of Senate Bill 223, concerning the prohibitions of installing unsafe used tires.

Auto safety is a top concern for auto insurers and PCI. New technologies are making today's cars safer for drivers and passengers, but we are seeing some of the largest increases in accidents and fatalities on the roads in 50 years. According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, traffic deaths rose 10.4 percent in the first half of 2016, and have been steadily increasing since 2014.

While safety is the first concern, the increase in accident frequency and severity comes at a time when repair, labor, medical and other costs associated with accidents also are rising—which could lead to increased premiums. To that end, PCI is working with policymakers, industry leaders, and consumers to promote driver safety and enact highway safety laws to protect motorists and pedestrians and keep insurance costs stable.

Enacting SB 223 would provide clear definitions around what is an unsafe used tire, and penalties for those that install them. This will help discourage their use and thus help keep Ohio roads safer.

PCI's urges you and your colleagues to vote "yes" on SB 223.

Thank you for your consideration of our perspective. Please contact me directly at 847-553-3678 or via email at jeffrey.junkas@pciaa.net or our Ohio counsel, Steve Buehrer at 614-365-4107 or via email at buehrer@carpenterlipps.com with any questions.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey Junkas

cc: Director Jillian Froment, Dept. of Insurance
Sen. LaRose