



OHIO MORTGAGE BANKERS ASSOCIATION

May 8, 2020

Honorable John Eklund (R-18)
Chairman, Senate Judiciary Committee
Senate Building, One Capital Square
1st Floor
Columbus, OH 43215

Dear Chairman Eklund,

On behalf of the Ohio Mortgage Bankers Association (OMBA), I want to thank you for your leadership for Ohioans during the COVID-19 crisis. The impact on our citizens and the state have certainly been mitigated as a result of your actions.

Today, as Ohio companies and operations who have been open and operating as essential businesses and those now getting ready to re-open under new, state approved guidelines, there is an issue weighing heavily on many owners and managers. The issue is of legal liabilities they may face from their employees and customers should the worst fears be realized and they become ill. At this unprecedented time of anxiety and stress for everyone, this is not a concern they should have to focus on.

OMBA is writing in support of SB 308, a bill which would provide liability protection for from lawsuits as they relate to COVID-19. This bill would shield employers at a time when they need to focus on rebuilding our state's economy.

This is an issue that has extremely strong bi-partisan support across the country and here in Ohio. Based on numbers from a recent U.S. Chamber of Commerce poll, over 80% of Republicans, Democrats and Independents support some sort of liability protection.

Again, OMBA appreciates your steadfast leadership. As the state moves to reopen, please do not hesitate to reach out and let me know how I can be of assistance, answer questions, or provide subject matter expertise related to the housing industry.

Sincerely,

Jay Pascoe
Executive Director and COO
Ohio Mortgage Bankers Association