

Written Testimony from the Independent Insurance Agents of Maryland Senate Bill 97

Private Passenger Motor Vehicle Liability Insurance - Protests - Consumer Complaint Portal

Position: Support

Dear Chairman Kelley and members of the Senate Finance Committee

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony in support of Senate Bill 97. The Independent Insurance Agents of Maryland (IIAM) is the State's oldest trade association of independent insurance agents. It represents 200 independent agencies, which employ over 2000 people in the state. IIAM represents independent insurance agents and brokers who present consumers with a choice of policy options from a variety of different insurance companies. These small, medium, and large businesses offer a variety of insurance products – including property, casualty, life, health, employee benefit plans, and retirement products.

Senate Bill 97 is a good consumer friendly bill allowing a consumer to file a protest of an action of an insurer for private passenger motor vehicle liability insurance electronically through the MIA's consumer complaint portal on its website.

As independent insurance agents, our clients are the insureds and this legislation makes it easier for us to help them navigate the process.

We urge a favorable report for this bill.

IIA Maryland's Legislative Representation

Legislative Committee Chair

Jay Duke

Waring-Ahearn Insurance Agency, Inc.

P.O. Box 666

Leonardtown, MD. 20650 Telephone: 301-475-5541 Fax: 301-475-3441

Email: Jay@waring-ahearn.com

Legislative Advisor

Brett S. Lininger, Esq.
Old Line Government Affairs
100 West Pennsylvania Avenue, Suite 101G
Baltimore, MD 21204

410-321-8200

Email: blininger@nemphosbraue.com

Denise Carnes, CPCU

Insurance Services Group, Inc. 309 International Circle, Suite 100 Hunt Valley, MD 21030

Telephone: 410-296-5700 Fax: 410-296-7546

Email: dcarnes@isgusa.com

Sandy Chaney, CIC, CRM

The Insurance Exchange, Inc. 9713 Key West Ave., Ste 401 Rockville, MD. 20850 Telephone: 301-545-1595

Email: chaney.s@tie-inc.com

Pamela Dodge, CIC, CISR, CPIA

RMS, LLC

2330 West Joppa Road, #365 Lutherville, MD. 21093 Telephone: 410-526-6690 Email: pamela@hellerkowitz.com

Michael McCartin, CPCU

Joseph W. McCartin Insurance P.O. Box 899

College Park, MD. 20740 Telephone: 301-937-0400 Fax: 301-937-5120

Email: Mike@McCartin.com

Stacey Nicholson, CIC, CPCU, LUTCF

CNR Insurance, Inc. 166 West Street Annapolis, MD. 21409 Telephone: 410-897-9890 Email: stacey@cnrinsurance.com

Shannon O'Hare, ACSR

Maury Donnelly & Parr, Inc. 22 Commerce Street Baltimore, MD. 21202 Telephone: 410-685-4625 Email: sohare@mdpins.com

Rick Raley, AAI, CIC

Combs, Drury, Reeves Insurance Agency 41625 Park Avenue Leonardtown, MD. 20650

Telephone: 301-475-5674 Fax: 301-475-5665

Email: rick.raley@cdrassociated.net

G. Bradford Reeves, AAI, AFIS

Combs, Drury, Reeves Insurance Agency

41625 Park Avenue Leonardtown, MD. 20650 Telephone: 301-475-5674 Fax: 301-475-5665

Email: brad.reeves@cdrassociated.net

Christopher Weller

Monterey Insurance Group 3235 Solomons Island Rd Huntingtown, MD. 20639 Telephone: 410-535-0416

Email: chris.weller@monteresyinsurancegroup.com