



**Oral Testimony in SUPPORT of SB 243, Minor Settlements Act
March 8, 2023**

Mr. Chairman and members of the committee:

My name is Craig Blumreich, and I am testifying today in support of Senate Bill 243 as it was amended by the Senate Committee on Judiciary on behalf of the American Property Casualty Insurance Association (APCIA).

Representing nearly 60 percent of the U.S. property casualty insurance market, APCIA promotes and protects the viability of private competition for the benefit of consumers and insurers. APCIA represents the broadest cross-section of home, auto, and business insurers of any national trade association. In Kansas, APCIA's members write more than \$4.2 billion in property and casualty insurance premiums.

Injuries to minors can result in long, drawn out settlements and increased costs for all parties involved. Senate Bill 243 outlines standards, procedures, and a choice for settling claims with low dollar amounts involving minors to save the courts, injured minors, and their families time and money, all while protecting the minor.

This bill is based on the National Council of Insurance Legislators Model Act. Bills based on this model act have been passed in Missouri, Oklahoma, and Kentucky. This bill is a piece of common-sense legislation that protects minors and their parents while allowing families the choice to settle their claims quicker and cheaper.

We appreciate the opportunity to express our support and urge your consideration of this proposed amendment. I am happy to answer any of your questions. Please also feel free to contact our local legislative counsel Brad Smoot or Larrie Ann Brown.

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