



May 14, 2015

The Honorable Joe Straus
Texas Capitol
PO Box 2910
Austin Texas 78768

Dear Speaker Straus;

We would like to add our voice to a growing number of business interests who are concerned with Senate Bill 1628/ House Bill 4636.

I understand the bill originally intended to curb perceived abuses in hail litigation, but it has now morphed into something insurance companies could use to steamroll their clients. Any entity who purchases property and casualty insurance to protect assets on the ground should be worried about the anti-business aspects of the legislation.

For example, the bill would gut the Unfair Settlement Practices statute (Chapter 541, Insurance Code) and the Prompt Pay statute (Chapter 542, Insurance Code). We buy insurance to give us peace of mind, and allow us to recover quickly in the event of a serious event....we do NOT buy insurance to get into lengthy battles with the insurance company just to get them to pay the claim! Business owners would lose statutory protections that have been in place—and working – for decades.

Please do not support this legislation. It is a wolf in sheep's clothing.

Sincerely,

Lee Vela, President