

STATEMENT

INSURANCE ASSOCIATION OF CONNECTICUT

Insurance And Real Estate Committee

February 27, 2014

**HB 5252, An Act Concerning Electronic Proof Of
Automobile Insurance Identification Cards**

The Insurance Association of Connecticut, IAC, supports adoption of HB 5252, An Act Concerning Electronic Proof Of Automobile Insurance Identification Cards.

Society is becoming more and more reliant on technology. Consumers overwhelmingly are using electronic means to complete consumer transactions that have previously been done in a paper format.

Insurance consumers are extremely tech savvy. They use electronic means for such things as receiving notices, paying their bills and accessing policy information. Some insurance companies already provide Connecticut drivers their automobile insurance identification cards electronically. And the Department of Motor Vehicles has indicated that electronic identification cards are not prohibited and are an acceptable format for providing valid proof of insurance.

The use of electronic identification cards means no more fumbling through a glove box to find an insurance card, or even an up-to-date card. It is also environmentally friendly by cutting down on paper and gas emissions while the person is looking for their card.

HB 5252 simply codifies current practices while providing privacy protections for the consumer. In adopting HB 5252 Connecticut would join thirty states that have already specifically permitted the use of electronic means to satisfy proof of insurance. Nineteen of those states include privacy language similar to that found in HB 5252 which prohibits state officials from viewing any information on the electronic device other than the insurance identification card. HB 5252 is permissive, meaning that it does not require anyone to use a particular format. If the consumer still chooses to receive and carry a paper identification card, they can still get one. Nor does it require an insurer to offer electronic identification cards.

The IAC respectfully requests adoption of HB 5252.