

SAFECars Constituent Meeting: Auto Body Shops and Insurance Steering

Automobile insurance companies in your state are engaging in the practice of "steering," forcing body shops to choose between doing repairs using cheap, low quality parts or losing business. Here are the important facts about the issue:

Our families are at risk. Insurance companies are forcing auto body shops to use lower quality aftermarket parts and to complete repairs in violation of manufacturer guidelines. This puts your constituents in danger.

The integrity of small businesses is being degraded. Small businesses are pushed to decide between going under or succumbing to the pressure of the insurance companies and completing repairs using dangerous parts and procedures so that insurance companies will not send clients elsewhere.

Transparency must return to the auto repair industry. This issue was settled in 1963 with a binding agreement between the insurance industry and the government but insurance companies are now exploiting loopholes to avoid the decree. We need a new law that clarifies this agreement applies to everyone in the industry, not just the original signatories.

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