



Automotive Service Association®

LEGISLATIVE NEWS



A bimonthly news update from ASA's legislative activities.

July/August 2015



Government Affairs Representative

Robert L. Redding Jr.
(202) 543-1440

TakingTheHill.com

ASA Board of Directors

- Chairman**
Donny Seyfer, AAM
- Chairman-Elect**
Roy Schnepfer, AAM
- Secretary/Treasurer**
Bill Moss, AAM
- Immediate Past Chairman**
Darrell Amberson, AAM
- General Director**
John Cochrane
- General Director**
Ed Cushman, AAM
- Collision Division Director**
Scott Benavidez, AAM
- Mechanical Division Director**
Bob Willis, AAM
- ASA President/Executive Director**
Dan Risley
danr@asashop.org
(817) 514-2912

Affiliate Associations

- ASA-Arizona
- ASA-Colorado
- ASA-Connecticut
- ASA-Florida
- ASA-Georgia
- ASA-Illinois
- ASA-Indiana/Evansville
- ASA-Michigan
- ASA-Midwest
- ASA-New Mexico-Central
- ASA-New Orleans
- ASA-Northwest
- ASA-Ohio
- ASA-PA
- ASA-Rhode Island
- ASA-Texas

Recent activities of ASA's Washington, D.C., office ...

ASA Leaders Meet with Capitol Hill Officials

- ASA's collision leaders met with members of Congress and their staff to discuss the impact of Most Favored Nation (MFN) clauses in direct-repair agreements. ASA members gave real-life examples of the effects of the MFN clause on both collision repair shops and consumers and asked lawmakers to consider options to stop the use of MFN clauses. ASA leaders emphasized the U.S. Department of Justice's history with the MFN clause, citing its lawsuit against Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan in 2013.
- ASA's Mechanical Division leaders met with their congressional offices to discuss the importance of periodic motor vehicle safety inspections during their recent Capitol Hill Fly-in. ASA proposed ideas for potential federal incentives for states wanting to establish new safety inspection programs or strengthen existing programs. The group also stressed that these inspections could provide an avenue for increased recall awareness.
- ASA's leadership also discussed the impact of the administration's proposed ozone standard on emissions inspection and Maintenance Programs with the U.S. House Energy and Commerce Committee.

ASA Supports Bill that Prohibits Insurer-Mandated Parts Procurement

- Michigan State Sen. Joe Hune, R-22, chairman of the Senate Insurance Committee, introduced Senate Bill 430 that would amend the insurance code to prohibit insurers from requiring automotive repairers to use a specific vendor or process to procure parts and other materials. If enacted, this legislation would effectively end all such requirements in current direct-repair program agreements for Michigan shops. The bill was introduced in response to ASA's advocacy efforts in the Michigan legislature. ASA supports Michigan Senate Bill 430.

Congress Reviews Administration's Proposed Ozone Standard

- The U.S. House Committee on Energy and Commerce's Subcommittee on Energy and Power held a hearing to examine the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) proposal to strengthen the ozone air-quality standards. Issued Nov. 25, 2014, the proposed regulations would tighten the level of the ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) from its current level of 75 parts per billion (ppb) to a level between 65 and 70 ppb. In addition, the EPA received comments on a level as low as 60 ppb.
- The Senate Environment and Public Works Committee (EPW) followed with a hearing titled, "Challenges and Implications of EPA's Proposed National Ambient Air Quality Standard for Ground-Level Ozone."

ASA Continues Telematics and Technology Efforts for Independent Repairers

- The Automotive Service Association (ASA) and the Alliance of Automobile Manufacturers hosted the second Technology

- & Telematics Forum in Detroit. The forum consisted of several segmented discussions focusing on topics such as connected cars, third-party applications and government regulations. Attendees heard from experts representing entities from across the automotive industry and the federal government.
- In conjunction with the forum, ASA hosted a roundtable discussion of aftermarket and manufacturer representatives. The group discussed priorities for automakers and repairers, as well as potential opportunities for collaboration. This meeting was the most recent in a series of dialogues beginning with last year's Technology & Telematics Forum.
- Congress has shown interest in telematics and new vehicle technologies. The U.S. House Subcommittee on Commerce, Manufacturing and Trade under the Energy and Commerce Committee held a hearing titled, "Vehicle to Vehicle Communications and Connected Roadways of the Future." During the hearing, members addressed issues associated with emerging telematics, vehicle-to-vehicle communication (V2V) and vehicle-to-infrastructure communication (V2I).
- U.S. Sens. Ed Markey, D-Mass., and Richard Blumenthal, D-Conn., have drafted legislation – the SPY Car Act – that addresses automotive cybersecurity.

ASA Seeks to Halt Federal Government Vehicle Maintenance Facilities

- ASA is working with U.S. Rep. Buddy Carter (R-Ga.) to review the current state of federal government vehicle maintenance.
- The U.S. House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform reported H.R. 1613, the Federal Vehicle Repair Cost Savings Act of 2015. This bill is a cost-saving measure that encourages the use of remanufactured parts to maintain the vehicles in the civilian federal fleet. As part of the markup, the committee also indicated an interest in exploring other methods of cutting costs, including federal fleet vehicle repair and maintenance practices. In H.R. 1613's report, the committee directs the U.S. General Accountability Office (GAO) to conduct a study to evaluate the potential cost savings of shifting fleet repair to private sector vendors that could provide these vehicle repair and maintenance services through a full and open competitive procurement process. The report also will determine the practicality of a multiyear phase-out from in-house civilian government repair to the private sector.

Automotive Service Association®
8209 Mid Cities Blvd.
North Richland Hills, Texas 76182
817.514.2900 • Fax 817.581.3572
asainfo@asashop.org • www.ASAsShop.org

You keep them going. We keep you going.