



Automotive Service Association®

LEGISLATIVE NEWS



A bimonthly news update from ASA's Mechanical Division.

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Government Affairs Representative

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

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Dan Risley
danr@asashop.org
(817) 514-2912

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

Collision Repairers Discuss MFN Clauses with Policy-makers

- The Automotive Service Association (ASA), as part of a Capitol Hill Fly-In, met with policymakers to discuss the problems caused for consumers and repairers by Most Favored Nation (MFN) or Customer clauses.
- ASA met with key members of the House and Senate authorizing and appropriations committees to discuss MFN clauses.
- Members of Congress expressed an interest in the impact on small businesses and consumers of MFN clauses.
- The administration has opposed MFN clauses for health insurers in the past.

Vehicle Safety Inspection Highlights Mechanical Capitol Hill Meetings

- ASA's mechanical leaders met with members of Congress to outline concerns about the decline in state vehicle inspection programs. ASA proposed several options for policymakers, including incentives for states to establish or enhance programs and a national study on vehicle safety inspection.
- The state of Mississippi has terminated its vehicle safety inspection program.
- Legislation has been introduced in North Carolina that repeals the state vehicle safety inspection program.
- ASA has included a vehicle safety program as part of the Service Repair Leadership Forum at NACE I CARS in Detroit, July 24, 2015.
- ASA will host its 2nd annual State Vehicle Inspection Forum in St. Louis in the fall of 2015.

Emission Inspection and Maintenance Programs

- The administration has proposed new ozone standards that could lower the standards from the current 75 parts per billion (ppb) to 65 to 70 ppb. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) also will take comments on a level as low as 60 ppb.
- ASA met with Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) policymakers at EPA's Ann Arbor, Mich., laboratory to discuss the proposed regulation's impact on emissions inspection and maintenance programs (I/M).
- ASA has had subsequent discussions with EPA and other organizations regarding the future of I/M.
- ASA mechanical leaders met recently with the U.S. House Energy and Commerce Committee to discuss the proposed regulation and impact on emissions I/M programs.
- ASA will work with states and the EPA, once the regulation is final, to ensure I/M programs work for consumers and repairers.

Federal Insurance Office

- ASA met with House leaders to discuss the lack of small business, and particularly collision repair industry, representation on the federal advisory committee for the Federal Insurance Office (FIO) at the U.S. Department of Treasury.
- ASA supported the establishment of FIO as a path to the federal regulation of insurance.
- ASA supports FIO having more input from the collision repair industry as to property and casualty insurance regulation.

NACE I CARS Will Include Technology and Telematics Expo

- The Alliance of Automobile Manufacturers will continue its sponsorship of the Technology and Telematics Expo at NACE I CARS 2015 in Detroit, Mich.
- The first Technology and Telematics Expo took place in 2014.
- ASA followed with an aftermarket-OEM industry telematics meeting in Dallas to discuss concerns.

ASA Board Appoints New Government Affairs Committee At Annual Meeting

- ASA's board of directors has named members of its new Government Affairs Committee for 2015:
- Roy Schnepfer, Butler's Collision, Roseville, Mich. chairman
 - Bill Moss, EuroService Automotive, Warrenton, Va.
 - Scott Benavidez, Mr. B's Paint & Body Shop, Inc., Albuquerque, N.M.
 - Bob Wills, Wills Auto Service, Battle Creek, Mich.
 - April Hernandez, Hernandez Collision Center, Savannah, Ga.

Federal Recall and Safety Legislation

- Numerous recall and vehicle safety bills have been introduced in Congress.
- U.S. Congresswoman Jan Schakowsky (D-Ill.) has introduced H.R. 1181, the Public Access to Motor Vehicle Safety Information bill. This legislation was introduced partly in response to recent automaker safety issues and airbag defects.
- Both safety and recall legislation may be addressed in the highway bill.

Automotive Service Association®
8209 Mid Cities Blvd.
North Richland Hills, Texas 76182
817.514.2900 • Fax 817.514.0770
asainfo@asashop.org • www.ASAsShop.org

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