



May 31, 2011

The Honorable Richard Geist
Chairman, House Transportation Committee

The Honorable Robert Godshall
Chairman, House Consumer Affairs Committee

Dear Chairmen Godshall and Geist:

I am writing to urge your support for the right to repair legislation that will be the subject of a hearing by a joint House Committee on Transportation and Consumer Affairs on June 2nd. I am the Chairman and CEO of Driven Brands, Inc which comprises Meineke Car Care Centers, Econo Lube N' Tune, Maaco, Auto Qual and a number of other franchised businesses. Driven Brands is a leading franchisor in the automotive aftermarket industry as well as the "Do-It-For-Me" segment of the car care sector. We have over 1,400 franchised businesses across the United States. Our core brands offer a comprehensive line of automotive services including exhaust, brake, ride control, lube, paint and body repair, glass repair and glass replacement. In Pennsylvania, we have approximately 78 independent automotive locations that employ almost 700 people. In addition, the corporate office for Maaco Franchising is located in King of Prussia, Pennsylvania employing an additional 100 people. Clearly, we have a vested interest in the outcome of the right to repair legislation you are considering.

Every year, more modern cars and light trucks depend on advanced technology to monitor and control virtually every function of a motor vehicle: brakes; steering; airbags; ignition and fuel delivery, among others. In order to successfully diagnose and perform basic repairs, car owners and independent car repair shops need full access to the information, software and proper tools designed for these advanced systems. However, vehicle manufacturers are making it increasingly difficult for independent repair shops to access this information.

As our very business depends on the viability of independent repair shops we have long been supporters of this legislation at the federal level. However, Congress thus far has failed to enact legislation; and therefore it is now more important than ever for the Pennsylvania Legislature to take action to ensure competition for the state's car owners. Absent competition, car owners will be forced to franchised dealers which will increase repair costs and reduce convenience.

Specifically, right to repair would:

- Require vehicle manufacturers to provide at a reasonable price, the same service information, tools and capabilities to independent shops that are offered to franchised dealer networks, particularly for repairing and maintaining late model computer controlled vehicle systems;
- Restore the right of consumers to have their vehicle serviced and maintained at the repair facility of their choice.



Right to repair would not:

- Affect the dealer's warranty agreement with the vehicle manufacturers; or
- Require manufacturers to disclose manufacturing processes or trade secrets.

Thank you for holding a hearing on this issue which is critical to our industry and to Pennsylvania consumers. We urge you to pass right to repair legislation as soon as possible.

Sincerely,



Kenneth D. Walker
Chairman and CEO

