



CARE

COALITION FOR AUTO REPAIR EQUALITY

NEWS RELEASE

Contact: Vicki Robb/Sandy Bass-Cors
800-229-5380/Immediate Release

SENIORS STEER TO "RIGHT TO REPAIR ACT"

Alexandria, VA September 3, 2003 The Coalition for Auto Repair Equality (CARE), a national organization representing companies in the automotive aftermarket, today announces that the 60 Plus Association, a national organization representing 500,000 senior citizen activists, is supporting passage of the Motor Vehicle Owner's Right to Repair Act. The bill, H.R. 2735 was re-introduced in the U.S. House of Representatives on July 15, 2003.

According to David Parde, president of CARE, the bill benefits everyone who owns a vehicle, especially America's over 25 million senior citizen who drive and /or are on fixed or low incomes.

H.R. 2735 is a pro-consumer bill that seeks to guarantee the ability of vehicle owners to choose—on their own—where, how and by whom to have their vehicles serviced, whether it is an independent garage, themselves or a dealership. It also gives consumers the choice of whose automobile parts they wish to purchase and whether they would like repairs to be conducted with original or non-original automobile parts.

Says Parde, "H.R. 2735 gives seniors the right to choose where to have their vehicle serviced, thus ensuring a greater sense of safety and security, more convenience, and less costly repair bills. Many seniors fought in wars to protect property and freedom of choice, not to have them removed in a subtle and piecemeal manner."

Jim Martin, president of 60 Plus says H.R. 2735 ensures quality repairs when safety is of paramount importance. He adds, "We older Americans depend heavily on our vehicles. They are the life-lines to our families, communities, houses of worship, and for easy, affordable transportation to take care of our medical needs."

The bill would also help stretch the dollar for today's seniors. Says Parde, "As competition becomes more restricted it can cause higher prices for repairs and parts, thus straining the already tight budgets of many seniors on fixed incomes."

To get the bill passed, CARE is spearheading a grassroots effort. Says Parde, "We're asking everyone to visit our website for more information (www.careauto.org) and call on their members of Congress to support this legislation." Support for the bill is growing. 60 Plus joins a list of other organizations such as the American Automobile Association, National Federation of Independent Business, Associated Locksmiths of American, Alliance of Automotive Service Providers, Automotive Aftermarket Industry Association, and Automotive Warehouse Distributors Association.

CARE represents companies in the automotive aftermarket, among them: NAPA, Midas, CARQUEST, AutoZone, Advance Auto Parts, O'Reilly's, Jiffy Lube and CSK (parent company of Checker, Schucks, Kragen). The automotive aftermarket is a \$200 billion a year industry representing five million people in over 495,000 locations. 60s Plus Association is a non-partisan seniors advocacy group with a free enterprise, less government, less tax approach to seniors' issues.

###

COALITION FOR AUTO REPAIR EQUALITY

119 ORONOCO STREET SUITE 300 ALEXANDRIA, VA 22314-2015
(703) 519-7555 1-800-229-5380 FAX (703) 519-7747
care@careauto.org/www.careauto.org