

Preserving consumer choice and affordable repair in the automotive collision parts industry

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## CAR Coalition Applauds FTC Report Urging Expanded Consumer Access to Auto Repair Options

WASHINGTON, D.C. (May 6, 2021) – The <u>CAR Coalition</u>, a growing group of independent automotive parts, management and repair companies, associations, and insurers committed to preserving consumer choice and affordable vehicle repair, today commended a unanimous report from the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) urging expanded consumer access to auto repair options. The CAR Coalition supports federal legislation to give consumers more options in the post-collision auto repair market and the ability to control their own vehicle data.

"The FTC report is a clear signal that there should be federal legislation protecting consumer's rights in the post-collision repair market," said Justin Rzepka, Executive Director of the CAR Coalition. "For far too long, the auto companies have dictated where and how consumers can repair their own vehicles. We concur with the FTC that consumers should be empowered to make choices when it comes to repairing products they repair and own, specifically their cars."

Specifically, the FTC report highlights:

- The use of telematics to limit independent repair access and consumer choice in the auto repair industry. (p. 21)
- The use of automaker-produced parts and affiliate repair networks to restrict repair options. (p.22)
- The practice of VIN burning which constrains the use of parts to a single vehicle. (p. 24)
- The attempt of auto manufacturers to create product monopolies with the increased use of technology in cars. (p. 41)
- The overwhelming support for a Right to Repair initiative in Massachusetts. (p. 45-46)

Rzepka added, "The CAR Coalition stands ready to work with the FTC and Members of Congress to advance pro-consumer post collision repair legislation. The time has come to put consumers in the driver's seat on auto repair."

## ABOUT THE CAR COALITION



The CAR Coalition is committed to preserving and protecting consumer choice and affordable vehicle repair by ensuring competition in the automotive collision parts industry. Members include: Allstate, American Property Casualty Insurance Association (APCIA), Automotive Body Parts Association (ABPA), Automotive Manufacturers Equipment Compliance Agency, Inc. (AMECA), AutoZone, Certified Automotive Parts Association (CAPA), Diamond Standard, Geotab, and LKQ Corporation. Learn more at carcoalition.com

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