



THE SENATE OF MARYLAND  
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

March 8<sup>th</sup>, 2023

The Senate Finance Committee  
The Honorable Melony Griffith  
3 East Miller Senate Building  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

**Re: SB - 793 – Consumer Protection - Automotive Glass Repair or Replacement -  
Advanced Driver Assistance System Recalibration**

Dear Chairwoman Griffith and members of the Committee,

Senate Bill 793 deals with technological changes in the automotive industry, specifically the fact that automobiles are increasingly integrated with computer systems. This bill deals with windshields and other automotive safety glass and a process known as “recalibration.”

The merits of the bill are implemented the moment the windshield is damaged or needs to be replaced. Windshields in most late model cars today are filled with cameras and other sensors, all of which are precisely calibrated to function properly. Collectively, these features are known as Advanced Driver Assistance Systems (ADAS). It is necessary to recalibrate the ADAS on the entire vehicle, in order that the vehicle may perform in accordance with manufacturers’ specifications.

When a windshield in a late model car requires repair or replacement, it isn’t like the old days when a glass repair shop could come to your house and install a new windshield with your car in the driveway. Today, the cars must be taken to a facility with, for example, completely level floors. More important, that facility must be equipped to recalibrate the cameras and sensors that are in the windshield. Without precise recalibration, the systems that notify the driver of potential hazards may malfunction.

Senate Bill 793 imposes a set of consumer notifications about the need for proper recalibration in the replacement of automobile safety glass. The bill requires a glass shop, before it begins repairs, to 1) inform the consumer if ADAS recalibration is required and 2) provide the consumer with a statement that the work to be performed will meet manufacturer specifications. The bill also prohibits charges for services that are not performed OR ARE NOT SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED.

Any violation of this section by a glass shop shall be considered an unfair trade practice under Title 13 of the Commercial Law Article. Title 13 acts as the “teeth” of the bill

The cross-file, HB920 has been heard in House Economic Matters, and I am pleased to advise the Committee that the difference between the positions of the AG’s office and the independent glass shops last year is not an issue. The glass shops are supporting this bill, and the

AG simply submitted a letter of information, but no amendments, to place its continuing concern about the unrelated issues of the cost of repairs and insurance coverage on the record.

In sum, the bill imposes necessary, commonsense consumer notification requirements for a vital service.

Senate Bill 793 is simply the next step in the process of appropriate regulation of this important subject.