



Automotive Body Parts Association - ABPA
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March 11, 2020

Chairman Dereck Davis
House Economic Matters Committee
House Office Building, Room 231
6 Bladen St., Annapolis, MD 21401

RE: House Bill 1418

Dear Chairman Davis:

As Executive Director of the Automotive Body Parts Association (ABPA), I respectfully ask you to **oppose and vote NO on HB 1418** which is set to be heard before the House Economic Matters Committee on March 12, 2020.

Who We Are - With more than 160 member companies nationally including within the state of Maryland, the Automotive Body Parts Association (ABPA) occupies over 400 distinctive locations including collision parts distribution centers, manufacturing facilities, and parts recycling plants. ABPA's members are responsible for distributing more than 80 percent of the independently produced aftermarket crash replacement parts sold to the collision repair trade.

Why we oppose HB 1418:

Based on the language of the bill, the consumer will be given the false impression that aftermarket parts are inferior to car company parts. Further, we have concern that consumers in Maryland will be given the impression that aftermarket parts are unsafe. As aftermarket collision parts are an essential part of the collision repair supply chain, we respectfully ask that you and your fellow committee members vote **NO to HB 1418**.

Aftermarket Parts Ensure Competition & Consumer Choice - Just by having no competition, car company parts on average increase by 8%. In addition, aftermarket collision parts are on average 26% less than their car company counterparts. Aftermarket parts are often less expensive, have better availability and **come with better warranties than car company parts**. Without aftermarket parts, it is estimated that insurance repair costs would increase by \$3.2 billion, a 7% increase that would be passed onto consumers. (economic data provided by American Property Casualty Insurers Assoc. Micra report & National Assoc. of Insurance Commissioners)

Maryland Jobs - HB 1418 would harm thousands employed in the state of Maryland including those who work for ABPA members with warehouses and distribution centers



located within in the state. By restricting aftermarket parts, the bill would potentially create more total loss vehicles which means that more vehicles will be totaled and not eligible for repair by Maryland auto body technicians.

The ABPA respectfully asks that you as Chairman of the House Economic Matters Committee to acknowledge the problems HB 1418 creates and the damages it would pose to both Maryland consumers and Maryland employees of ABPA members.

Should you have any questions, please contact me at 800-323-5832.

Best Regards,

Edward Salamy

Edward Salamy
Executive Director
Automotive Body Parts Association
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