

Press Release



For Immediate Release

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AASPMN Introduces Bipartisan Legislation to Clarify and Strengthen Minnesota Law Related to Insurance Claims Handling and Settlement Offers

AASPMN has been working closely with lawmakers in the Minnesota Senate and House on legislation to strengthen protections for insurance policy holders and repair shops in their dealings with the insurance industry. Senate File 2209 (Senator Wesenberg – GOP – Little Falls) and House File 1322 (Representative Huot – DFL – Rosemount) seeks to speed up the repair process by requiring quicker response times from insurers on repair supplements, ensures that repairs related to the safety or operation of a vehicle are not reduced in a settlement offer, requires detailed documentation of the claims process between the repair shop and the insurance company, and prohibits insurers from repeatedly requesting the same information in an effort to drag out the repair negotiations.

This important legislation would also establish a private right of action for automobile insurance claims which would allow for the recovery of attorney's fees, witness fees, disbursements, and reasonable costs associated with any litigation stemming from an unfair claims practice action. This provision would allow repair shops to take matters to court when there have been serious and egregious violations of state statute rather than relying on reports to the Department of Commerce, a practice that has not been productive in curtailing the behavior of bad actors.

AASPMN is grateful to our bill authors and other lawmakers who have supported our efforts on this legislation and look forward to moving the bill through the legislative process in the coming weeks and months.

For additional information, contact Linden Wicklund at linden@aspmn.org or 612- 623-1110.

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AASPMN is an association of independently owned automotive service businesses and industry suppliers dedicated to improving Minnesota's automotive service industry and the success of its nearly 600 members. For more information, visit www.aaspmn.org.