TRENT KELLY

FIRST DISTRICT, MISSISSIPPI 1005 LONGWORTH HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING WASHINGTON, DC 20515-2401 (202) 225-4306



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Congress of the United States House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515

April 6th, 2020

Honorable Makan Delrahim

Assistant Attorney General

United States Department of Justice

950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW

Washington, DC 20530-0001

Re: Docket # 63 Civ. 3106, Consent Decree in US vs Association of Casualty and Surety Companies

Dear Assistant Attorney General Delrahim,

We have heard from small business owners and consumers from all across Mississippi expressing great concern about the possibility that the Department of Justice (DOJ) may terminate the Consent Decree (referenced above) that prohibits insurance carriers from engaging in anti-competitive behavior such as price fixing, collusion and steering in the automobile repair market. While we are supportive of DOJ's initiative to undertake a broad scale review of existing antitrust judgments that do not have termination dates, we believe the DOJ should consider the merits of the collision repair consent decree and the relevance of preserving it to protect the consumers in Mississippi and across the country who deserve a free and fair marketplace when they are seeking repairs to their vehicles.

Small businesses in the collision repair industry in Mississippi, and their customers, make a compelling case that the collision repair consent decree is unique and deserves a serious review into its continuation. In fact, they assert that this Consent Decree is pro-small business, pro-consumer, and pro-competition. We agree that at its foundation are common-sense consumer protections which remain important and necessary in Mississippi and throughout the country. Terminating this Consent Decree would improperly encourage the kind of anti-competitive activity which led to the decree in the first place.

We respectfully request that the DOJ review the merits and importance of preserving this consent decree as it makes its decision. Thank you in advance for your consideration.

