



Federal News

- U.S. Senators Klobuchar (D-MN) and Lee (R-UT) [sent a joint letter to the Federal Trade Commission](#) requesting information on the FTC's efforts to enforce existing laws against unlawful repair restrictions, as well as additional tools or authorities the FTC may need to improve its enforcement abilities. One question asked in the letter is, "Has the FTC taken action to determine whether product manufacturers and sellers make replacement parts, repair tools, software, and manuals and schematics available to consumers and independent repair shops?" Nothing in the letter explicitly mentioned the automotive industry. Klobuchar is the Chair and Lee is the Ranking Member of the Senate Judiciary's Subcommittee on Competition Policy, Antitrust, and Consumer Rights.
- The U.S. House Appropriations Committee passed a bill to provide the Treasury Department and other independent federal agencies \$23.6 billion for fiscal year 2025. It passed on a party-line 33-24 vote. [H.R. 8773, the Fiscal Year 2025 Financial Services and General Government Appropriations Act](#), includes language that would, in practice, take away the Federal Insurance Office's subpoena authority and obtain data on the insurance industry. Housed in the U.S. Treasury Department, FIO was established through the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act of 2010. ASA was one of the original and strongest advocates for including FIO's creation in the legislation.
- The U.S. House Energy & Commerce Committee Chairwoman Cathy McMorris Rodgers (R-WA) cancelled [scheduled committee votes](#) on her comprehensive data privacy bill, the American Privacy Rights Act of 2024 (H.R. 8818). The bipartisan bill has faced stiff opposition from certain Republican House leaders. To address some of their concerns, Rodgers removed language from the bill related to discriminatory use of data. This change caused some Democrats to withdraw their support for the bill, casting doubt on the bill's ability to pass out of committee in its current form. Ten other bills were also scheduled but will no longer receive a committee vote today, including the AM Radio for Every Vehicle Act (H.R. 8449), which would require all vehicles manufactured in the United States to come equipped

State News

- North Carolina Governor Roy Cooper (D) [signed H. 155 into law](#). In addition to expanding the types of roads on which modified utility vehicles may drive and other related provisions, this new law authorizes vehicle safety inspectors to perform inspections on low-speed vehicles at locations offsite from the inspection station at which they're employed. The state defines a "low-speed vehicle" as one whose top speed is greater than 20 mph and less than 25 mph.



- The New York State Senate passed [S. 5936](#) – a bill opposed by ASA – and sent it to the State Assembly for consideration. If enacted into law, auto repairers in New York City could encounter additional hurdles in renewing their license every two years. It would require the DMV commissioner to consider parking code violations in determining whether to grant an auto repair business license renewal or transfer. It would also increase the influence of local community boards in the process. [Residents of New York can click here to contact their state assemblymembers to urge them to oppose S. 5936.](#)
- California Governor Gavin Newsom (D) [vetoed SB 301](#). This bill would have created a financial rebate for converting a gasoline or diesel-fueled vehicle into a zero-emission vehicle. The governor cited funding restraints caused by the state's \$44.9 billion budget shortfall in his decision to veto the bill. SB 301 passed without opposition in both the state assembly and senate.
- Hawaii Governor Josh Green (D) signed [HB 2463](#) into law. Previously, employees in the state were not entitled to overtime compensation and other employment standards if they received a guaranteed salary greater than \$2,000 each month. Under the new law, that threshold increased to \$4,000 in guaranteed monthly salary. This law could result in some automotive repair business in Hawaii having to compensate a greater number of employees for overtime work.
- Licensed vehicle safety inspection stations and technicians in California are permitted to begin inspecting vehicles starting on July 8, 2024. [Click here to learn how to register your automobile repair facility as a licensed inspection station or to learn more about the program.](#)
- New Hampshire's legislature passed [HB 1259](#), which would have the effect of removing the license requirement for insurance adjusters who only "investigates, negotiates, settles, or completes a first notice of loss form for automobile glass replacement or repair claims. The bill was introduced at the request of the state's Insurance Department. It now awaits Governor Sununu's (R) signature.

Other useful links!

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