February 27, 2020

RE: **SB 136, AN ACT CONCERNING MOTOR VEHICLE OWNER AND SMALL BUSINESS RIGHT TO REPAIR.**

Dear Members of the General Law Committee:

I am Joy Avallone, General Counsel of the Insurance Association of Connecticut (IAC), a state-based trade association for Connecticut’s insurance industry. Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments in support of SB 136, *An Act Concerning Motor Vehicle Owner and Small Business Right to Repair.*

SB 136 would help to protect the rights of consumers in motor vehicle repair transactions and level the playing field for numerous independent small businesses that repair motor vehicles in Connecticut by allowing them to purchase the same diagnostic and repair information, including repair technical updates, that manufacturers of motor vehicles sold in the state make available to their dealers. It would also make available for purchase, upon fair and reasonable terms, diagnostic repair tools incorporating the same diagnostic, repair and wireless capabilities that such manufacturer makes available to dealers.

Consumers are the ultimate beneficiaries of fair and open competition. If all repairers have access to this information at a reasonable price, it would bring down repair costs for consumers and likely also cause a reduction in insurance premiums.

For the aforementioned reasons, we urge you to support SB 136.

Thank you.