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The Honorable Richard Gelst
Chairman, House Transportation Committee

5/28/11

The Honorable Robert Godshall
Chairman, House Consumer Affairs Committee

Dear Chairman Godshall and Geist,

I am writing this letter to urge your support of the Right to Repair legislation that will be a subject of your hearings on June 2. Erie DriveTrain Inc. is a small business (3 employees) located in Western Pennsylvania. We have been in business for over 25 years. Erie DriveTrain Inc. designs, manufactures, and repairs all types of power transmission components such as clutches, transmissions, drivelines and rear axles for the transportation industry. Vehicle size ranges from a small garden tractor up to an 18 wheel tractor trailer.

The complexity of today's cars and trucks increases exponentially each year. To successfully diagnose service and repair these vehicles for our customers' full information access is required. Our goal is to repair each customer's car or truck correctly the first time without any additional trips to another service provider. This is becoming increasingly more difficult to achieve.

I personally have been a supporter of the Right to Repair legislation for many years at the Federal level. However, Congress has failed to enact any legislation. For Erie DriveTrain's customers now is the critical time for the Pennsylvania legislation to act and ensure competition in the future. Absent this competition, car and truck owners will be forced to find

service only at the franchised dealer. Studies have proved this option only increases repair costs and reduces convenience.

The goals of the Right to Repair legislation is to provide, at a reasonable cost, the same service information and tools to the independent repair shops that are offered to franchised dealers.

The legislation should be specific in stating no manufactures needs to disclose any manufacturing process or trade secrets and the dealers warranty agreement with the vehicle manufacturer would not in any way be affected.

Thank you for holding a hearing on this issue. In my opinion, this issue is critical to both the long term health of the motor vehicle industry and the survival of Erie DriveTrain Inc. I urge you to pass the Right to Repair legislation as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "J. David Bell". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J" and a long, sweeping underline.

J. David Bell

President

Erie DriveTrain Inc.