



Automotive Service Association®

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January 28, 2020

The Honorable Elizabeth Thomson
Chairwoman of the Committee on Consumer
And Public Affairs
490 Old Sante Fe Trail
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501

The Honorable Andrea Romero
Vice Chairwoman of the
Committee on Consumer and
Public Affairs
490 Old Sante Fe Trail
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501

RE: Support House Bill 156

Dear Chairwoman Thomson, Vice Chairwoman Romero, and Members of the Committee:

I represent the Automotive Service Association (ASA). ASA is the largest and oldest national association representing collision and mechanical repair facilities. We are writing today in support of House Bill 156, establishing a new section of the Criminal Code for illegally dismantling stolen vehicles.

ASA has been involved in public education on preventing stolen vehicles and the trade in stolen parts, supported legislation with goals similar to HB 156 and established a Code of Ethics for our members. In addition, ASA was a leader in seeking shop licensing programs in Florida and Ohio, as well as other states, that would help assure shops with criminal intentions are not involved with our industry.

ASA served as a member of the Federal Bureau of Investigation’s Stolen Auto Parts Federal Advisory Committee. ASA also worked to establish a Secure Data Release Model (SDRM), as part of the auto industry’s National Automotive Service Task Force (NASTF), to protect vehicle owners.

We believe HB 156 is a good first step in helping to address the problem of “chop shops” in the State of New Mexico and other states. This legislation will assist in protecting consumers and legitimate repair shops. In the Fiscal Impact Report, according to the New Mexico Department of Public Safety, “not enacting the bill will result in less tools for law enforcement officers to use against chop shop owners.”

We ask that the Committee support HB 156. Please call on us if we can provide additional information.

Sincerely,

Robert L. Redding, Jr.

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