



MAINE AUTO RECYCLERS ASSOCIATION

97A Exchange St., Ste 305

Portland, ME 04101

Tel: 207-752-1392 • Fax: 888-612-0941

E-mail: feedalliance@gwi.net

May 9, 2023

Senator Curry, Representative Roberts, and Members of the Committee on Innovation, Development, Economic Advancement, and Business:

The Maine Auto Recyclers Association consists of approximately 50 members, including virtually all the larger auto recyclers in Maine, some of them processing dozens of vehicles a day, as well as a number of small family-owned firms which may dismantle a few cars a month.

Our Association works closely with Maine DEP on issues such as Stormwater Management and with Maine's Bureau of Motor Vehicles on issues such as the recent legislation to combat theft of catalytic converters.

We strongly support LD 1677, An Act Regarding Automotive Right to Repair

Our members supply used parts to Maine's independent garages, as well as to the "aftermarket parts" firms which are in many cases the only source for vehicle replacement parts for older vehicles -- and Maine is a state of older vehicles. According to data from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Maine has more used car dealerships than any other state.

However, the widespread use of telematic data to program various auto parts, from transmissions to power windows, is now making it increasingly difficult for an independent garage to repair vehicles. There are, according to our members, about twenty auto parts requiring an electronic "key" to be activated when replaced in the newer cars. The newer the car, the more parts requiring these electronic "keys".

Maine's independent garages need access to vehicle repair and maintenance data to be able to access these keys.

William Bell, Executive Director