To: Insurance

By: Representative Chism

HOUSE BILL NO. 834

AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 83-11-501, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,
TO PROHIBIT MOTOR VEHICLE REPAIR SHOPS FROM CHARGING LABOR RATES
IN EXCESS OF A CERTAIN PERCENTAGE ABOVE THE NATIONAL AVERAGE FOR
LIKE KIND WORK; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI:

SECTION 1. Section 83-11-501, Mississippi Code of 1972, is

- 7 amended as follows:
- 8 83-11-501. No insurer may require as a condition of payment
- 9 of a claim that repairs to a damaged vehicle, including glass
- 10 repairs or replacements, must be made by a particular contractor
- 11 or motor vehicle repair shop; provided, however, the most an
- 12 insurer shall be required to pay for the repair of the vehicle or
- 13 repair or replacement of the glass is the lowest amount that such
- 14 vehicle or glass could be properly and fairly repaired or replaced
- 15 by a contractor or repair shop within a reasonable geographical or
- 16 trade area of the insured. In no event shall a motor vehicle
- 17 repair shop charge labor rates above the average national rate
- 18 charged for like kind work, without the express approval of the
- 19 Commissioner of Insurance.

20 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from

21 and after July 1, 2016.