To: Insurance

By: Senator(s) Robinson

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## SENATE BILL NO. 2411

AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 83-11-501, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,

2 TO PROVIDE THAT THE MOST AN INSURER SHALL BE REQUIRED TO PAY FOR THE REPAIR OF A VEHICLE OR REPAIR OR REPLACEMENT OF GLASS IS THE PREVAILING MARKET AMOUNT FOR WHICH SUCH VEHICLE OR GLASS COULD BE 5 PROPERLY, FULLY AND FAIRLY REPAIRED OR REPLACED BY A CONTRACTOR OR 6 REPAIR SHOP WITHIN A REASONABLE GEOGRAPHICAL OR TRADE AREA OF THE 7 INSURED; TO REQUIRE THAT REPAIRS BE PERFORMED PURSUANT TO THE ORIGINAL EQUIPMENT MANUFACTURER'S ("OEM") REPAIR PROCEDURES WITH 8 9 OEM PARTS; TO PROHIBIT INSURERS FROM SOLICITING A REFERRAL FEE IN 10 EXCHANGE FOR REFERRING AN INSURED TO A REPAIR FACILITY; TO 11 PROHIBIT AN INSURER FROM SUGGESTING TO AN INSURED THAT THE INSURED 12 MUST USE A SPECIFIC REPAIR FACILITY; TO SET CERTAIN OTHER 13 REQUIREMENTS; TO PROVIDE THAT, IN THE CASE OF A VIOLATION OF THIS ACT, AN INSURER MAY BE PENALIZED; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES. 14 15 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI: **SECTION 1.** Section 83-11-501, Mississippi Code of 1972, is 16 17 amended as follows: 18 83-11-501. (1) No insurer may require as a condition of 19 payment of a claim that repairs to a damaged vehicle, including glass repairs or replacements, must be made by a particular 20 contractor or motor vehicle repair shop; provided, however, the 21 22 most an insurer shall be required to pay for the repair of the 23 vehicle or repair or replacement of the glass is the prevailing market amount \* \* \* for which such vehicle or glass could be 24 S. B. No. 2411 ~ OFFICIAL ~ G1/225/SS08/R106 PAGE 1 (icj\kr)

25	properly <u>,</u>	fully	and	fairly	repaired	or	replaced	l by	a	contractor	0
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- 26 repair shop within a reasonable geographical or trade area of the
- 27 insured. A proper repair is performed pursuant to the original
- 28 equipment manufacturer's ("OEM") repair procedures and using OEM
- 29 or OEM equivalent parts that have been properly tested pursuant to
- 30 or meet the manufacturer's specifications.
- 31 (2) In connection with the repair of damage to a motor
- 32 vehicle covered under an automobile insurance policy, an insurer,
- 33 an employee or agent of an insurer, an insurance adjuster, or an
- 34 entity that employs an insurance adjuster may not:
- 35 (a) Solicit or accept a referral fee or gratuity in
- 36 exchange for referring an insured or third-party claimant to a
- 37 repair person or facility to repair the damage;
- 38 (b) State or suggest, either orally or in writing, to
- 39 an insured that the insured must use a specific repair person or
- 40 facility or a repair person or facility identified on a preferred
- 41 list compiled by an insurer for the damage repair or parts
- 42 replacement to be covered by the policy; or
- 43 (c) Restrict the right of an insured or third-party
- 44 claimant to choose a repair person or facility by requiring the
- 45 insured or third-party claimant to travel an unreasonable distance
- 46 to repair the damage.
- 47 (3) The insurer of a motor vehicle shall clearly and
- 48 prominently display the provisions of subsection (1) and (2) of



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- 50 lieu of an insurance policy.
- 51 (4) In the case of a violation of this article, an insurer
- 52 may be penalized in accordance with Section 83-5-85.
- 53 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
- 54 and after July 1, 2025.