

HOUSE No. 962

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Joseph F. Wagner

To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court assembled:

The undersigned legislators and/or citizens respectfully petition for the adoption of the accompanying bill:

An Act reforming labor rates paid by insurance companies to auto repairers in the Commonwealth.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

Joseph F. Wagner

8th Hampden

Susannah M. Whipps Lee

2nd Franklin

HOUSE No. 962

By Mr. Wagner of Chicopee, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 962) of Joseph F. Wagner and Susannah M. Whipps Lee for legislation to authorize the Commissioner of Insurance to set labor rates paid by insurance companies to auto repairers. Financial Services.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE HOUSE, NO. 969 OF 2013-2014.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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**In the One Hundred and Eighty-Ninth General Court
(2015-2016)**
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An Act reforming labor rates paid by insurance companies to auto repairers in the Commonwealth.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Chapter 100A of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting the
2 following section:-

3 Section 15. The commissioner of insurance shall set the minimum hourly labor rate that
4 insurers shall pay on insured claims for repairs made by registered motor vehicle repair shops.
5 The rate shall be the minimum rate paid by insurers on all Massachusetts insured motor vehicle
6 damage claims and shall be the average of the hourly rates paid by insurers for motor vehicle
7 damage repairs in Connecticut, Maine, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Vermont. In
8 determining the average of rates, the commissioner shall utilize data available from independent
9 collision repair estimating services. Upon setting the rate, the commissioner shall have the

10 discretion to adjust the hourly rate by not more than 3 per cent greater or 3 per cent less than the
11 average. The commissioner shall review the hourly labor rate once every 3 years to make
12 readjustments as necessary; provided, however, that the commissioner shall provide a report of
13 any proposed new rate to the joint committee on financial services 15 days before promulgation.
14 The commissioner shall adopt regulations for the administration and enforcement of this section.

15 SECTION 2. Section 113B of chapter 175 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2012
16 Official Edition, is hereby amended by inserting, after the word “commissioner” in line 14, the
17 following:- ; provided, however, that collision repair hourly labor rates, set under section 15 of
18 chapter 100A of the General Laws, shall not be included when considering programs to control
19 costs and expenses under this section or section 113H of chapter 175 of the General Laws.