



## Federal News

**McCarran-Ferguson Restoration Act** ([H.R. 7130](#)) was introduced by Representative Troy Downing (MT-02), with the purpose of eliminating the Federal Insurance Office (FIO). This bill would eliminate the Federal Insurance Office, create a United States Insurance Representative, and expand state insurance representation on the Financial Stability Oversight Council (FSOC) by making a state insurance commissioner a voting member.

The FIO was created to monitor all aspects of the insurance industry and serve as an advisor to the Secretary of the Treasury on domestic and international policy issues. The appointed FIO official also serves as a non-voting member on the Financial Stability Oversight Council. ASA opposes any legislation that would eliminate or weaken the FIO.

[Click here to see how you can urge opposition to H.R. 7130.](#)

**U.S. House Energy and Commerce Committee** held a subcommittee hearing on auto safety, consumer choice and competition issues. The hearing concentrated on sixteen proposed draft bills and discussion drafts covering topics from right to repair to autonomous vehicle deployment.

[Click here to read ASA's Press Release regarding the hearing.](#)

**U.S. Representative Robin Kelly** (IL-02) introduced the [Securing Accessible Functional Emergency \(SAFE\) Exit Act](#), an act to mandate car manufacturers install power independent, easy to find door releases. The intention behind the act is to make it safer and easier for emergency responders to help passengers exit the vehicle in emergency situations.

**U.S. Representative George Latimer** (NY-16) introduced [H.R. 6948](#), a bill to amend the U.S. Code to require the Secretary of Transportation to set safety standards for new electric and hybrid vehicles.

The Secretary would be directed to consult with a member of a major EV and hybrid manufacturer along with representatives from professional and volunteer firefighters' organizations to develop requirements that improve the safety of EV and hybrid vehicles. The requirements would include the addition of features allowing firefighters quick battery access, a standardized battery location within vehicles, and technology to delay passenger compartment breach.

## State News

**Hawaii** HB1691 would legally allow the use of electronic signatures on documents used to transfer the ownership of a salvage motor vehicle to insurance companies, without requiring notarization. This bill was introduced on January 21, 2026, and is pending committee assignment.

**Illinois** SB2753 would amend the Illinois State Vehicle Code to delay the start of mandatory vehicle emissions inspections until a vehicle's sixth year. Under current law, emissions inspections begin after four years, so this change would effectively postpone the inspection schedule by an additional two years.

**Maine** LD1228 would have clarified terms in the Automotive Right to Repair Law that was voted in by ballot measure in 2023. The bill passed both the State Senate and House but was vetoed by Governor Janet Mills on January 7<sup>th</sup>. The House voted to override the veto; however, the bill ultimately failed when the Senate did not reach the required majority to override the veto.

**Vermont** S235 was introduced; the purpose of the bill is to require motor vehicle dealers and repair shops to record service and diagnostic history to a vehicle history database. The history should be traceable through the VIN, and the bill would require any dealers to disclose the history in its entirety to potential buyers. The bill was referred to the Committee on Transportation.

**Vermont** S262 would exempt passenger cars and trucks with a gross vehicle weight rating of under 10,000 pounds from annual safety and emissions inspections. The bill would require dealers to undergo a safety and visual emissions inspection prior to the sale of a used vehicle. The bill was referred to the Committee on Transportation.

Want to help advocate? [Sign up for action alerts here](#)

Want to learn more about how ASA's advocating for you? Visit [www.TakingTheHill.org](http://www.TakingTheHill.org)

