

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Independent Glass Association Backs South Carolina Senate Bill S.0767 as Landmark Consumer Choice and Fair Competition Legislation

Columbia, SC and Scottsdale, AZ — January 13, 2026 — The Independent Glass Association (IGA) today announced its full support for South Carolina Senate Bill S.0767, comprehensive vehicle glass reform legislation introduced by Senator Ott. The bill represents one of the most robust and modern automotive glass consumer-protection and fair-market frameworks proposed in the United States to date.

S.0767 is the result of months of direct collaboration between the IGA and independent auto glass shops across South Carolina. Drawing on real-world claim data, documented steering practices, reimbursement disputes, and safety concerns related to advanced driver assistance systems (ADAS), the legislation establishes clear protections for consumers, fair standards for repair reimbursement, transparency requirements for insurers and third-party administrators (TPAs), and enforceable accountability measures.

“This is not theoretical legislation, it is practical, evidence-based, and shop-driven,” said Gary Hart, executive director of the Independent Glass Association. “S.0767 reflects what is actually happening in the marketplace and corrects long-standing imbalances that harm consumers, compromise safety, and disadvantage ethical independent repair facilities.”

The bill prohibits insurer and TPA steering, requires full disclosure of financial affiliations, establishes reimbursement based on prevailing competitive market rates, mandates coverage for OEM-required ADAS recalibration, and enforces nationally recognized safety accreditation standards. It also grants enforcement authority to the South Carolina Department of Insurance and creates meaningful remedies for violations.

The IGA notes that S.0767 is already drawing significant opposition from insurer and TPA interests, many of whom have reportedly retained lobbyists to challenge the bill. According to the Association, that opposition underscores exactly why comprehensive, industry-informed legislation is necessary.

“For too long, legislation impacting auto glass repairs has been drafted without meaningful input from the independent businesses actually performing the work,” Hart said. “This bill sends a clear message: policies affecting consumer safety and market fairness must be shaped with full industry participation, not behind closed doors.”

Trey Black, IGA board member and owner of Glass Express, Inc., has been one of the lead advocates for S.0767 in South Carolina and worked closely with the IGA in developing the bill’s language.

“This legislation is about transparency, safety, and respect for both consumers and independent repair professionals,” said Black. “S.0767 ensures customers are informed, vehicles are repaired correctly, and shops are treated fairly. It also makes it clear that no single insurer or TPA should be writing the rules for an entire industry. I encourage every independent glass shop in South Carolina, and beyond, to get involved, speak up, and help move this bill forward.”

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The Independent Glass Association views S.0767 as a model framework for other states and for the auto glass industry nationally, demonstrating how consumer protection, safety, and competitive markets can coexist without overreach.

Call to Action

The IGA urges independent auto glass shops, industry suppliers, and consumers in South Carolina to:

- Contact their State Senators to express support for S.0767
- Reach out directly to Senator Ott to thank him for introducing comprehensive, industry-informed legislation
- Share real-world experiences related to steering, reimbursement pressure, and ADAS payment challenges

The Association will continue working closely with South Carolina shops throughout the legislative process and will provide updates, advocacy tools, and testimony opportunities as the bill advances.

About the Independent Glass Association

The Independent Glass Association is a national trade association representing independent automotive glass repair and replacement businesses. The IGA advocates for consumer choice, safety, fair competition, and transparent insurance practices while providing education, compliance resources, and industry leadership.

For more information or to get involved, visit <https://www.iga.org/scadvocacy>

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