MIKE JOHNSON

4TH DISTRICT, LOUISIANA

WASHINGTON DC OFFICE

418 Cannon House Office Building Washington, DC 20515 Phone: (202) 225-2777 Fax: (202) 225-8039

BOSSIER CITY OFFICE

2250 HOSPITAL DRIVE, SUITE 248 BOSSIER CITY, LA 71111 PHONE: (888) 216-3005 FAX: (318) 584-7294



Congress of the United States

House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515

December 19, 2019

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The Honorable Makan Delrahim Assistant Attorney General US Department of Justice 950 Pennsylvania Ave. NW Washington, DC 20530-0001

Re: Docket # 63 Civ. 3106, Consent Decree in U.S. vs Association of Casualty and Surety Companies

Dear Assistant Attorney General Delrahim,

I write to you today to express my concern over the proposed termination of a consent decree regarding automobile repairs, specifically found in *United States v. Association of Casualty and Surety Companies, et al.*

In August of this year, following the department's proposed review of nearly 1,300 antitrust judgments enacted without any sunset dates, I heard from numerous concerned constituents - many of whom are small businessmen and women who support this administration's policies –who continuously express how this consent decree continues to promote competition and remains in the best interest of the American consumer. In addition, they expressed to me that, should this consent decree be terminated, it would eliminate a long-standing agreement to protect consumers against price fixing for auto repair claims and against compelling – commonly referred to as steering – consumers to use only those repair shops beholden to insurance companies.

I greatly appreciate the department's goals in conducting a thorough review of all the consent decrees that currently have no sunset. I'm sure you would agree with me that reducing unnecessary government regulation on American businesses should remain a priority. In addition, I appreciate the department's willingness to extend a fair process to stakeholders who have submitted comments and the willingness of the department to consider comments received in opposition to terminating this decree. Based on the sincere and thoughtful concerns raised by my constituents, I believe the merits of this particular decree and its continued relevance warrant strong consideration for continuation.

Sincerely,

Mike Johnson

Member of Congress