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## COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND COMMERCE

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## Congress of the United States House of Representatives

Washington, **DC** 20515-4003

March 11, 2020

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 US vs Association of Casualty and Surety Companies

Dear Assistant Attorney General Delrahim,

As conservative South Carolina House Republicans who support needed regulatory reform, we commend you for your Division's broad scale review of nearly 1300 antitrust judgments which do not have sunset dates, to determine if they continue to be useful in promoting competition and continue to benefit the consumer. We fully support the goal of terminating those which do not.

We have recently heard from South Carolina small business owners who, like many other American small business owners, are strong supporters of this Administration and its policies. They make a compelling argument that the decree cited above is unique among those proposed for termination and continues to promote competition in the auto claims settlement process, and also continues to be in the best interest of the American consumer. The Decree helps to ensure that the independence of adjusters and collision repair businesses is not undermined. If the Decree were terminated it might embolden the anti-competitive conduct it was originally intended to prevent.

In view of the pro-small business, pro-consumer, pro-competition policies at the foundation of this Decree, we join other conservative Republican Members of Congress who have previously expressed the view that this Decree uniquely warrants continuation. We hope that you might come to that conclusion as well, and provide Americans (including small business men and women, their employees and their customers) with the certainty that this Decree will be preserved, and that it will continue to help prevent anti-competitive conduct.

Blessings and Liberty.

eff Duncan

Member of Congress