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SCIENCE, SPACE, AND TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE RANKING MEMBER, SUBCOMMITTEE ON INVESTIGATIONS AND OVERSIGHT

COMMITTEE ON THE BUDGET

March 31, 2020

Honorable Makan Delrahim Assistant Attorney General United States Department of Justice 950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW Washington, D.C. 20530-0001

RE: Docket #63 Civ. 3106, Consent Decree in US vs Association of Casualty and Surety Companies

Dear Assistant Attorney General Delrahim,

We, the undersigned members of Congress, strongly support needed regulatory reform and commend you for your Division's broad scale review of nearly 1300 antitrust judgments. Many of these judgements do not have sunset dates and it must be determined 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 to ease regulations and increase competition in their respective markets. 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 would ultimately 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.

Once again, we applaud the Department of Justice's intentions to rid our economy from unnecessary and outdated regulations. However, this decree protects against anti-competitive behavior and promotes safety, and we hope you might come to that conclusion this Decree will be preserved.

Sincerely,

Ralph Norman

Member of Congress