



March 19, 2020

President Donald J. Trump  
The White House  
Office of the President  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

The Automotive Recyclers Association (ARA) represents over 4,500 professional automotive recyclers across the United States and in 14 countries internationally. Professional automotive recyclers remove and recycle automotive parts in an environmentally efficient and safe manner. The primary business model of professional automotive recycling entities includes acquiring total loss vehicles (salvage) along with other vehicles such as charity vehicles, older vehicles and end-of-life vehicles to harvest original equipment manufacturer (OEM) parts for sale to service and repair facilities, consumers and other automotive industry stakeholders.

On behalf of the thousands of professional automotive recycling member facilities I would like to express the importance of keeping these businesses open during the critical Covid-19 pandemic to citizens and repair facilities who need immediate vehicle repairs. During these uncertain times, citizens still need access to health care, food and other primary services and need to have reliable and safe access to transportation options. Public transportation is not an option in many cases because of the rural nature of much of the country as well as the avoidance of gatherings of 10 or more people.

In addition, as the automakers temporarily close their manufacturing facilities and, in some instances, may retool their production to much needed ventilators and other medical equipment, it is even more important that consumers and repair shops have viable, local and immediate options for vehicle replacement parts. While local jurisdictions may deem auto supply and repair facilities as "essential" during mandatory business closures, a national standard would greatly take away the uncertainty that permeates so much of citizens' lives at this point in time.

Mr. President, we applaud the herculean efforts of you, your Administration and bipartisan leadership in the Senate and House that continue to steer America through this extremely challenging time. **We urge you to include automotive recycling facilities in any national initiatives, Executive Orders or other legislative/regulatory vehicles that deem certain industries and businesses as "essential".** Automotive recyclers are primarily small businesses and important to their communities. While we wish to keep them safe throughout this process, they stand ready to manipulate their employee schedules, exposure and facilities to accommodate this basic function of providing Americans with safe and reliable transportation.

Thank you for your consideration of this request and please reach out with any and all questions.

Sincerely,  
*Sandy Blalock*  
Sandy Blalock  
Executive Director  
571-208-0428

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**ROE - Recycled Original Equipment**

cc: The Honorable Mike Pence, Vice President  
The Honorable Steven Mnuchin, Secretary of the Treasury  
The Honorable Elaine Chao, Secretary of Transportation  
The Honorable Eugene Scalia, Secretary of Labor  
The Honorable Wilber Ross, Jr., Secretary of Commerce  
The Honorable Chad Wolf, Acting Secretary of Homeland Security  
The Honorable Mitch McConnell, Majority Leader, United States Senate  
The Honorable Charles Schumer, Minority Leader, United States Senate  
The Honorable Nancy Pelosi, Speaker, United States House of Representatives  
The Honorable Kevin McCarthy, Minority Leader, United States House of Representatives  
The Governors of the 50 States