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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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New Jersey Right to Repair Legislation Approved by General Assembly

*Received substantial bipartisan support -- 58 yes votes, 15 no votes and 6 abstentions
With support from sponsors and the public, Right to Repair will be the Law of the Land*

Sal Risalvato, Executive Director of the New Jersey Gasoline, Convenience, Automotive Association (**NJGCA**), released the following statement today about the recent progress of New Jersey's Right to Repair legislation and his hopes for the bill's passage during the 215th Legislature:

"On December 19, in the last voting session of 2013, the New Jersey General Assembly approved Right to Repair legislation by a vote of 58-15-6. The bill had strong bipartisan support and received significantly more votes than in previous sessions when it passed the General Assembly by slimmer margins."

Risalvato continued, "My members, the independent repair shops and auto technicians, are very fortunate that this legislation has the unwavering support and advocacy of its Assembly sponsors, Assemblymen Reed Gusciora and Paul Moriarty. We attribute much of our recent success to the dedication and conviction of the bill's sponsors. When Right to Repair was up for discussion in the Assembly Consumer Affairs Committee, Chairman Moriarty made it very clear that, one way or another, he planned to ensure that the auto manufacturers hold up their end of the bargain and provide independent mechanics with the information that they need to complete a repair to their customers' cars."

"For the past 10 years," Risalvato stated, "auto manufacturers have been very effectively stalling the efforts of small business owners and consumer advocacy groups to obtain this technical information. Car manufacturers have consistently used misinformation and empty promises in their attempts to confuse legislators and maintain their monopoly over

computer codes and software that are necessary for independent auto repair technicians to complete a repair on a consumer's car."

"Over the summer, car manufacturers, dealers and those parties representing auto repair shops and their allies agreed upon a Memorandum of Understanding to apply throughout the entire United States," Risalvato explained. "Unfortunately, the deadline for a national agreement came and went several months ago and consumers are still at the mercy of car dealerships and auto manufacturers. I am grateful for all that Assemblymen Moriarty and Gusciora have done in their fight for the small business owners and consumers, and I have been thrilled to support this legislation every step of the way."

"However," Risalvato pointed out, "With the 214th Legislature officially coming to a close next week (on January 14, 2014), and a new Legislature being sworn in, Right to Repair, along with all other legislation that did not complete the legislative process over the past two years, will have to be reintroduced and start over from the beginning. This gives us the opportunity to make our Right to Repair legislation even better and stronger and add more consumer and small business protections. "

"The progress that this legislation made in the recent months, combined with the tireless efforts and support demonstrated by Assemblymen Moriarty and Gusciora, provide me with great confidence that Right to Repair has unwavering advocates in the Legislature and will soon be the Law of the Land. I look forward to continuing to support independent auto technicians and consumers in their quest for the freedom to choose where to get their car repaired, and I will be at the front lines along with Assemblymen Gusciora and Moriarty each time this legislation is up for discussion," Risalvato concluded.

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