

From: [Brian Richard](#)  
To: [FamiliesCommunities Committee](#)  
Subject: Bill 203  
Date: Tuesday, October 25, 2016 10:46:40 AM

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***To whom it may concern;***

***As a small businessman and owner/operator of an Automotive repair business, I am concerned about the proposal put forward by Mr. Jon Carson, MLA for Meadowlark, Edmonton.***

***I feel that this proposal would greatly affect all automotive repair business in Alberta in a negative manner. His proposal states that we should be performing inspections and diagnostic work at no charge if we perform the repair for the client. With today's highly technological vehicles, 30-40% of the time spent on a job is spent on diagnostics. We all spend a great deal of money each year on updates, reprogramming, information subscriptions and new scanners. In our shop we will spend \$10,000-12,000/year to keep current. All this information and equipment is needed to properly diagnose today's complex vehicles. If we could not charge for the diagnostic/ inspection time, we might as well close our doors.***

***I do not understand why this proposal is necessary, myself and many of my peers have been charging for inspection/diagnostic for years. Our clients are given an estimate for basic diagnostic before the job begins and are kept briefed on progress. If extra time is needed, we ask the client for it and they make the decision whether to proceed further on the job. This has worked very well and the client always aware of the cost of repair- no surprises!!***

***I feel if the proposal should pass without amendments, this would force honest business people to adopt new ways of getting paid for the time taken to inspect/diagnose. At present, the system works well, since the consumer is fully aware of the breakdown of costs involved to repair their vehicle.***

***In addition, AMVIC (Alberta Motor Industry Council) plays an important role as an advocate for the consumer, should the need arise for action to be taken against a shop that has taken advantage of a consumer.***

***In conclusion, I feel that legislation has to speak to moral and ethical grounds, not the methods used in how to repair vehicles.***

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Respectfully,

**Brian Richard**

**Pres.**

**Richard Automotive**

**704-2<sup>nd</sup>. St. NW Three Hills, AB.**

**403-443-5500**

**403-443-5392 fax**