AN ACT to create 632.375 of the statutes; relating to: motor vehicle repair practices.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. 632.375 of the statutes is created to read:

632.375 Motor vehicle repair practices; restriction on specifying vendor. (1) SCOPE. This section applies to every insurer that issues or delivers in this state a motor vehicle insurance policy that covers repairs to a motor vehicle registered or principally garaged in this state.

(2) PROHIBITED PRACTICES. (a) No insurer may require that, as a condition of the coverage specified in sub. (1), repairs to a motor vehicle must be made by a particular contractor or repair facility. For purposes of this section, a consumer has the right to select the motor vehicle repair facility of his or her choice.

(b) No insurer may fail to initiate and conclude with due dispatch an investigation of a claim for repairs to a motor vehicle on the basis of whether the repairs will be made by a particular contractor or repair facility.

(3) INAPPLICABILITY TO GLASS REPAIR. Section 632.37, rather than this section, applies to the repair or replacement of motor vehicle glass under a motor vehicle insurance policy.

SECTION 2. Initial applicability.

(1) Except as provided in subsection (2), this act first applies to a claim made under a motor vehicle insurance policy on the effective date of this subsection.

(2) If a motor vehicle insurance policy that is in effect on the effective date of this subsection contains a provision that is inconsistent with this act, this act first applies to a claim made under that motor vehicle insurance policy on the date on which the policy is renewed.

* Section 991.11, WISCONSIN STATUTES: Effective date of acts. “Every act and every portion of an act enacted by the legislature over the governor’s partial veto which does not expressly prescribe the time when it takes effect shall take effect on the day after its date of publication.”