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July 13, 2015

The Honorable John Thune  
Chairman  
Committee on Commerce, Science  
and Transportation  
United States Senate  
511 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Bill Nelson  
Ranking Minority Member  
Committee on Commerce, Science  
and Transportation  
United States Senate  
716 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

**Re: American Car Rental Association Opposition to Section 4209 of S. 1732 and Support for Senator McCaskill's Proposed Amendment on Rental Car Recalls**

Dear Mr. Chairman and Ranking Member Nelson:

The American Car Rental Association (ACRA) respectfully registers its opposition to Section 4209 of S. 1732. Further, ACRA strongly urges support for Senator McCaskill's proposed amendment to replace Section 4209 with the text of S. 1173 – "The Raechel and Jacqueline Houck Safe Rental Car Act." Senator McCaskill will offer her amendment during the Senate Commerce Committee's mark-up of S. 1732 on Wednesday, July 15, 2015.

ACRA is the national representative for over 98% of our nation's car rental industry. ACRA's membership is comprised of over 300 car rental companies -- including all of the nationwide brands you would recognize such as Alamo, Avis, Budget, Dollar, Enterprise, Hertz, National and Thrifty – and includes hundreds of independent car rental companies and system franchisees. ACRA members have over two million registered vehicles in service, with fleets ranging in size from one million cars to ten cars.

ACRA opposes Section 4209 of S. 1732 and supports Senator McCaskill's amendment for one reason: Section 4209 represents a significant step back in consumer protection when compared to the current prevalent car rental industry practice of grounding vehicles with open safety recalls, while Senator McCaskill's amendment will enhance consumer protection by in essence codifying current industry safety practices. There can be no debate that Senator McCaskill's amendment will enhance consumer safety when compared to Section 4209. For ACRA's members, customer safety is the first priority. As a result, ACRA's support for Senator McCaskill's amendment over Section 4209 is an easy decision – as it should be for each Senator on the Commerce Committee.

S. 1173 – and Senator McCaskill's amendment – is the product of negotiations, open to all stakeholders, that ultimately produced federal rental car recall legislation that is



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supported by the car rental industry – the industry regulated by the bill – and consumer safety advocates. General Motors and Honda have expressed their support for S. 1173. Section 4209 of S. 1732 is not supported by the industry regulated under the section or the nation's consumer safety groups.

If you or members of the Committee have questions about ACRA's position on Section 4209 of S. 1732 or Senator McCaskill's amendment, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Thank you for considering ACRA's views on this important topic.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "sharonfaulkner". The signature is written in a cursive, lowercase style.

Sharon Faulkner  
Executive Director

cc: Members of Senate Commerce Committee