



Automotive Service Councils of California

Professionals in Automotive Service - Since 1940

September 5, 2012

The Honorable Edmund G. Brown, Jr.
Governor, State of California
State Capitol
Sacramento, California 95814

Re: SB 750 (Hernandez) — Request Veto

Dear Governor Brown:

On behalf of the Automotive Service Councils of California (ASCCA), we are writing to express our concerns regarding, SB 750. The ASCCA is a statewide organization that represents over 1,000 automotive repair facilities in the State. This bill would eliminate the sunset and make permanent a special key replacement exemption for only BMW, while other car manufactures must comply.


ASCCA believes that SB 750 is not just about keys—it's about the right to repair for the small independent auto repair business. Future BMW models will have diagnostic/repair information (thumbprint) embedded in the (immobilizer) key. Technology is moving in this direction. If the independent repair shop cannot get access to the information within the immobilizer/keys in the future, the independent will not be able to diagnose or repair the vehicle and the customer will be forced to go back to the new car BMW dealership, even if he/she would like to use a trusted independent repair shop.

Furthermore, why should BMW have a special exemption with no justification? All other vehicle manufacturers must comply with current law, which requires manufacturers to provide data/code information through a secure process. The bill also sets bad precedent for other car manufacturers to request an exemption in the future and thus not comply with the law.

Finally, consumers will be harmed by having to wait for days in order to obtain a replacement key from Germany rather than the convenience of having their local automotive repair shop or locksmith provide a replacement key.

For the reasons stated above we respectfully request that you veto SB 750.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'TR' or similar initials, written in a cursive style.

Tracy Renee, President

CC: ASCCA Board of Directors
ASCCA Government Affairs Committee
Jackie Miller, Executive Director
Jack Molodanof, Legislative Advocate