



## NEWS FROM NEW JERSEY ASSEMBLY DEMOCRATS



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### Advocates Praise Speaker Coughlin, Sampson Bill on Vehicle Recalls Now Signed Into Law

*The new law improves consumer safety notifications and ensures fairness for dealerships and vehicle technicians*

(TRENTON) — In an effort to curb the risks posed by vehicle recalls and ensure fairness for New Jersey’s auto dealerships and workers, Governor Phil Murphy signed Bill [A4380](#), the Motor Vehicle Open Recall Notice and Fair Compensation Act, into law last week. Sponsored by Assembly Speaker [Craig J. Coughlin](#) and Assemblyman [William Sampson](#), the bill strengthens recall notification requirements for drivers and ensures dealerships and technicians are properly compensated.

“I’m proud to see this legislation signed into law because it delivers real protections for drivers in New Jersey, making sure they receive clear notice when a recall puts their safety at risk,” **said Assembly Speaker Coughlin (D-Middlesex)**. “At the same time, our neighborhood dealerships and their highly skilled technicians deserve fair compensation for the work they perform. This is about keeping our roads safe, standing up for working people, and ensuring fairness across the board.”

The law directs the Motor Vehicle Commission to review the federal recall database before issuing registrations and to notify owners in writing if their vehicle has an open recall. That notice must describe the recall and make clear that repairs can be completed at no cost to the owner by an authorized dealer.

“This law is a welcome step forward for both consumers and workers alike,” **said Assemblyman Sampson (D-Hudson), Chair of the Assembly Consumer Affairs Committee**. “Drivers deserve to be notified right away when their car has a safety recall so they can get it fixed without delay and our local dealers, and their technicians, deserve to be paid fairly for their time and skill.”

Under the law, dealership technicians will be fairly compensated for work related to recalls, including diagnostic services, ensuring that highly skilled mechanics are paid what they deserve for their labor. As a result, dealerships will be able to continue to provide high-quality services at a reasonable cost to the consumer. In the past, manufacturers commonly reimbursed dealerships at rates below retail costs, forcing these local businesses to shoulder the burden themselves.

“This legislation represents a critical step forward in protecting consumers, leveling the playing field for locally owned dealerships, and ensuring that automakers fairly compensate those who fix their mistakes,” **said Laura Perrotta, President of New Jersey Coalition of Automotive Retailers.**

“On behalf of our dealer members across the state, I want to thank Governor Murphy, Senate President Nicholas Scutari, and Assembly Speaker Craig Coughlin for their leadership on this important issue.”

“Mechanics impacted by this law will finally see a significant increase in pay and will no longer have to work under a quota system that often resulted in unpaid overtime,” **said New Jersey State AFL-CIO President Charles Wowkanech.** “These workers are highly skilled, and this law will ensure that they are properly compensated.”

“United Service Workers Union (USWU) applauds Speaker Coughlin for being a champion and sponsor of this crucial legislation. For too long auto manufacturers have exploited hard working auto technicians and this bill being signed into law has put that to an end and requires technicians be compensated fairly. This bill helps the labor movement, small businesses and the consumer. USWU is proud to stand with Speaker Coughlin, Senate President Scutari, Governor Murphy and all the legislators who helped pass these protections into law.” **said Connor Shaw, Political Director, United Service Workers Union.**

“I thank Governor Murphy and the General Assembly for the support on this very important piece of pro-worker legislation now signed into law. The Motor Vehicle Open Recall Notice and Fair Compensation Act is about fairness for the hardworking men and women who keep New Jersey’s cars and trucks safely on the road. Auto technicians deserve to be paid equally for their skills and labor, whether the work is under warranty or not,” **said IAM Union District 15 Area Director Cristino Vilorio, who also serves as the IAM’s New Jersey State Council President.**

