



July 17, 2019

Via electronic mail (openrecords@tdi.texas.gov)

Texas Department of Insurance
Attn: Public Information Coordinator
P.O. Box 149104
MC 112-1C
Austin, TX 78714

Re: Public information request, "prevailing rate" language in automobile policy forms

To Whom It May Concern:

Texas Watch is a non-partisan, non-profit citizen advocacy organization that has fought for the rights of policyholders for over 20 years. We submit the following public information request pursuant to Chapter 552 of the Texas Government Code.

Please provide all documents, communications, and other public information within your possession pertaining to private passenger and commercial automobile policies and endorsements submitted for approval, approved, and/or disapproved by TDI within the last ten (10) years containing the terms "prevailing rate" or similar language. To be clear, we seek information about how insurers define the rate with which they will compensate facilities for repair work. We view adequate compensation as crucial to public safety because it supports investment in training, education, proper equipment, and the necessary time to make thorough and safe repairs to damaged vehicles.

Please consult your records and note that the Office of the Attorney General ruled in our favor on a similar public information request submitted by our organization several years ago. The policies and endorsements within your possession should be properly produced to the public under Chapter 552. They are open records.

We prefer publication of these documents and items in electronic form (e.g., PDFs). If there is a cost associated with honoring our request, please inform us before any charges are incurred.

If you have any questions, please contact me at wwendell@texaswatch.org. We appreciate your prompt attention to this matter and thank you in advance for your help.

Respectfully submitted,



Ware V. Wendell
Executive Director