Mr Harbison,

As someone who works full time and does not have an extensive knowledge of motor vehicles, it makes sense for me to have someone knowledgable about the subject assist me when I decide to purchase a car. However, the Broker's Prohibition, as defined by 43 T.A.C. § 215.4, limits these services. I don't have family in the area, so I have few places to go for help beyond hiring a professional.

I would like to have a knowledgable person accompany me when purchasing a vehicle in order to help me get the best possible deal. Instead of spending months researching cars and visiting dealerships - where I would still run the risk of having my lack of knowledge taken advantage of - I would like to have a single place where I can go to get general assistance with narrowing down my choices and learning about the intricacies of a car deal. Why would the State of Texas think it is in the people's best interest to prevent a company from providing such a service?

One can receive help from a financial advisor when buying stocks, or from a realtor when looking to buy property; in both cases a fee is charged for the service. Why is purchasing a car any different? I would like to have the option of consulting an expert when contemplating the purchase of a vehicle.

I would like you to consider the needs and best interest of the general public when considering this formal opinion. Thank you for your consideration,

-Lauren Lasseter

Regarding: http://ftp.txdmv.gov/pub/txdot-info/dmv/opinion_request.pdf