

**SERVICE PRECAUTIONS (Continued)**

- **ALL COMPONENT REPLACEMENTS AND WIRING SERVICE MUST BE MADE WITH THE POSITIVE BATTERY DISCONNECTED FOR A MINIMUM OF ONE MINUTE BEFORE SERVICE OR REPLACEMENT IS ATTEMPTED.**
- **THE INSTRUCTION "DISCONNECT" ALWAYS REFERS TO A CONNECTOR. NEVER DETACH A COMPONENT FROM THE VEHICLE WHEN INSTRUCTED TO "DISCONNECT".**
- **VEHICLE SENSOR ORIENTATION IS CRITICAL FOR PROPER SYSTEM OPERATION. IF A VEHICLE EQUIPPED WITH AN AIR BAG SYSTEM IS INVOLVED IN A CRASH WHERE THE FENDERS OR GRILLE AREA HAVE BEEN DAMAGED, INSPECT THE SENSOR MOUNTING BRACKETS FOR DEFORMATION. IF DAMAGED, THE SENSOR SHOULD BE REPLACED WHETHER OR NOT THE AIR BAG IS DEPLOYED. IN ADDITION, ENSURE THAT BODY STRUCTURE IN THE AREA OF SENSOR MOUNTING IS RESTORED TO ITS ORIGINAL CONDITION.**

After all service, verify the air bag indicator. This means turn the ignition switch to RUN and count the flashes only after the code (series of flashes) has cycled twice. If the air bag indicator comes on continuously for 4 to 8 seconds and then goes out, the system is functioning properly and all faults have been serviced.

**PARTS REPLACEMENT****Steering Column**

if the accident involved an air bag deployment, the steering column may have been loaded sufficiently to deform steering column mounting brackets or damage column wiring. An inspection should be made of the column structure and clockspring wiring to ensure that any damaged components are replaced. Refer to Section 11-04.

**Air Bag System**

Prior to attempting diagnostic prove-out on a serviced vehicle, thoroughly check all sensors and wiring for damage and pinch condition which may cause the diagnostic module internal fuse to blow.

**REMOVAL AND INSTALLATION****Instrument Panel**

**NOTE:** Removal and installation of the instrument panel is best accomplished by two people.

Refer to Section 18-01, Wiring and Circuit Protection for routing and connection locations.

**Removal and Installation**

1. Position front wheels in the straight ahead position.
2. Disconnect positive battery cable.
3. Remove radio and cluster finish panel as outlined.
4. Disconnect all electrical connections from steering column switches.