

# **HB1303 CDL.pdf**

Uploaded by: Johnny Mautz

Position: FAV

JOHNNY MAUTZ  
Legislative District 37B  
Caroline, Dorchester, Talbot,  
and Wicomico Counties

Economic Matters Committee



The Maryland House of Delegates  
6 Bladen Street, Room 424  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
410-841-3429 · 301-858-3429  
800-492-7122 Ext. 3429  
Fax 410-841-3523 · 301-858-3523  
Johnny.Mautz@house.state.md.us

THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES  
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

March 10, 2022

SPONSOR TESTIMONY  
DELEGATE JOHNNY MAUTZ  
DIST. 37B – CAROLINE, DORCHESTER, TALBOT & WICOMICO COUNTIES

**HB 1303—MOTOR VEHICLES—EMERGENCY COMMERCIAL DRIVER’S LICENSE--ESTABLISHMENT**

**Summary**

HB1303 will establish a program to authorize previous holders of a commercial driver’s license to obtain an emergency CDL during a state of emergency. Interested individuals must have held a CDL within the past five years and provide a medical certificate in order to qualify.

**Background**

The pandemic and new federal regulations have exacerbated the shortage of licensed CDL drivers.

**Rationale**

HB1303 will not resolve the shortage problem, but it will however provide much needed and timely relief through temporary “intrastate” CDL licenses.

**Conclusion**

We respectfully request a **favorable report of HB1303** from the Committee and thank you for considering this important legislation.

# **HB1303 - Maryland Motor Truck Association - Support**

Uploaded by: Louis Campion

Position: FAV



# Maryland Motor Truck Association

9256 Bendix Road, Suite 203, Columbia, MD 21045

Phone: 410-644-4600 Fax: 410-644-2537



**HEARING DATE:** March 10, 2022

**BILL NO/TITLE:** House Bill 1303: Motor Vehicles - Emergency Commercial Driver's Licenses - Establishment

**COMMITTEE:** House Environment & Transportation Committee

**POSITION:** Support

Maryland Motor Truck Association offers its support for HB1303, which would create an expedited path for the emergency issuance of short-term commercial drivers' licenses to former CDL holders during a state of emergency.

The trucking industry is suffering from a massive labor shortage of drivers. National data from the American Trucking Associations indicates the current shortfall is over 80,000 drivers. Projections indicate that shortage will reach 100,000 by 2023. A recent survey of 22 companies on MMTA's Board of Directors indicated an average need for 30 drivers per company.

As witnessed at the onset of the pandemic, when supply chains are disrupted, shortages of goods are quick to follow. Trucks are the hub of Maryland's distribution wheel, playing a vital role in support of the state's manufacturing, agricultural, grocery and retail industries. Over 92 percent of Maryland's communities are served exclusively by truck, meaning that is the only way they get their goods. Without the trucking industry's drivers, there is no food on the grocery shelves, there are no medical supplies in hospitals, and there are no vaccines in pharmacies. Now more than ever, the resilience and integrity of our supply chain needs to be protected.

HB1303 only applies to intrastate driving. Drivers may only operate vehicles they were previously qualified for, and they must be medically certified in accordance with state and federal law. Issued licenses are short term in duration, applying only during a state of emergency and expiring within six months after the emergency ends. These limitations are designed to ensure safety, while also providing potentially meaningful benefits to certain industry segments (local delivery, construction, school bus, agricultural) that rely on local CDL drivers to meet demand.

For the reasons noted above, MMTA asks for a favorable report.

**About Maryland Motor Truck Association:** Maryland Motor Truck Association is a not-for-profit trade association representing the trucking industry since 1935. In service to its 1,000+ members, MMTA is committed to supporting and advocating for a safe, efficient and profitable trucking industry across all sectors and industry types, regardless of size, domicile or type of operation.

**For further information, contact:** Louis Campion, (c) 443-623-4223

# **HB1303\_FAV\_Nelson**

Uploaded by: Steve Nelson

Position: FAV



March 9, 2022

The Honorable Kumar Barve and Members  
Environment and Transportation Committee  
House Office Building  
Annapolis, MD 21401

**Re: Support – HB 1303 – Motor Vehicles – Emergency Commercial Driver’s Licenses – Establishment**

Dear Chairman Barve and Members of the Committee:

The Maryland School Bus Contractors Association (MSBCA) supports HB 1303 – Motor Vehicles – Emergency Commercial Driver’s Licenses – Establishment. MSBCA serves as the voice of the private school bus companies that contract with local Maryland school systems in 18 of Maryland’s 24 jurisdictions to own and operate the nearly 3500 contracted school buses that transport schoolchildren across the State. MSBCA remains committed to the safety of the students they transport and considers it a privilege to do so.

As you well know, we are facing a severe school bus driver shortage. This shortage is not limited to Maryland – in Massachusetts earlier this school year, they had to rely on the National Guard to drive school buses so that kids could be transported to and from school. Here in Maryland, we have not yet had to resort to such measures but the emphasis there should be placed on the word “yet.” Countless numbers of buses were at a standstill at the beginning of this school year due to the fact that there simply were not enough drivers to drive them.

House Bill 1303 would authorize the MVA to establish a program to authorize certain former holders of a commercial driver’s license to obtain, under certain circumstances, an emergency CDL during a state of emergency declared by the Governor. This bill would assist greatly in getting properly-trained drivers behind the wheels of school buses here in Maryland, while not sacrificing safety.

Once again, MSBCA supports HB 1303 and asks for a favorable report. Thank you for your consideration and your commitment to our State.

Sincerely,

*Steve Nelson*

Steve Nelson, President  
1 State Circle, Annapolis, MD 21401  
410.268.3099

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