

National SXS Association Support letter Senate.pdf

Uploaded by: Dave Hayes

Position: FAV



NSXSA

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Maryland General Assembly
2/09/2026

"Representatives/Senators,

My name is Dave Hayes, and I represent the National Side by Side Association. Part of our mission is to support safe and sustainable Off-Highway Vehicle recreation and Bill SB 480 does just that. We support SB 480, just as we did last year as SB 711. Since the pandemic first started, motorized recreation has been the fastest growing segment of the outdoor recreational economy, and this Bill and the creation of an Oversight Board would help ensure Maryland can not only meet that demand for access, but do so with the end user in mind. We regularly field questions from Marylanders looking for access throughout the State. This funding can be utilized to provide them a legal way to enjoy the outdoors close to home, while providing direct access and input into the decision-making process. Allowing those putting money into the fund, also help target the way the funds are used to their benefit.

Thank you for your time"

Sincerely,

Dave Hayes

Legislative Liaison

SB0480 Support.pdf

Uploaded by: James Ratino

Position: FAV

Hi,

My name is James Ratino, President of the Maryland Off-Highway Vehicle Alliance. Our members and constituents support SB0480. SB0480 streamlines accountability to the direct funders of the existing OHV Title Tax Fund. With accountability, the creation of an advisory board with stakeholders and publishing annual expense reports will help make sure those providing money for this funding regularly provide input for the types of access they want to see. The creation of an advisory board is inline with many other stakeholder interest groups throughout the State. As an increasingly recognized segment of the Outdoor Recreation economy, it is time the OHV community is afforded the advisory board so many other groups already have. This board will ensure a large range of end user input into the decision-making process to make sure the funders of access get to see the types of access they desire.

SB0480 has already received endorsement in prior legislative session of 2025 (SB711) from the Department of Natural Resources.

Thank you,

James Ratino

SB 480 Written Testimony - JPR.pdf

Uploaded by: Mike McKay

Position: FAV

MIKE MCKAY
Legislative District 1
Garrett, Allegany, and Washington Counties



THE SENATE OF MARYLAND
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

Judicial Proceedings Committee
Executive Nominations Committee

Joint Committees

Administrative, Executive,
and Legislative Review
Children, Youth, and Families
Program Open Space and Agricultural
Land Preservation

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Williamsport, Maryland

Senate Bill 480 – Off-Highway Recreational Vehicle Recreation Oversight Board - Establishment

February 12, 2026

Dear Chair Smith, Vice Chair Waldstreicher, and Members of the Committee,

Senate Bill 480 establishes a clear and practical framework for stakeholder input into Maryland's off-highway recreational vehicle (OHRV) programs by creating the Off-Highway Recreational Vehicle Recreation Oversight Board. By bringing together representatives of riders, dealers, and organized recreation groups, the bill ensures that those who actively use and support OHRV trails have a formal role in advising the Department of Natural Resources on trail operations, acquisition, and regulation. This structured advisory approach promotes transparency, accountability, and informed decision-making while preserving the Department's authority to manage public lands responsibly.

Importantly, SB 480 strengthens collaboration without creating new regulatory burdens or costs, as the Board serves in an advisory capacity and is supported by existing Department staff and resources. Regular quarterly meetings and geographically informed input will help ensure that Maryland's OHRV trail system is safe, sustainable, and responsive to local needs. By formalizing stakeholder engagement, this legislation supports outdoor recreation, responsible land stewardship, and economic activity tied to motorsports tourism across the State.

I thank you for your time and I urge a favorable report.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Mike McKay".

Senator Mike McKay
Representing the Appalachia Region of Maryland
Serving Garrett, Allegany, and Washington Counties