

**HB1333.pdf**

Uploaded by: Bailey Clark

Position: FAV

From: Bailey Clark bailey@clark-clan.com  
Subject: HB1333  
Date: Mar 8, 2022 at 1:34:17 PM  
To: Nick Clark nick@clark-clan.com

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To whom it may concern,

My family has lived in the home backing up to Homespun for nearly 5 years. we loves our home and neighborhood, but hates the disruptive noise from the exhaust pipes of these passing modified cars. We have tolerated being interrupted, irritated and annoyed for years without any reprieve.

When my children and I are playing in the backyard we are bombarded by loud pops and the reviving of engines at all hours. I have counted as many as 15 different cars driving by in a 60 minute time span with modified exhaust and a variety of other modifications. I have personally photographed several of these cars (who promote their Instagram accounts with stickers) and have found the drivers online promoting races and gatherings for their hobby, which include but are not limited to drag racing, spinning tires, doing donuts, figure eights, and J-turns at libraries, schools and empty parking lots in Howard county.

When these cars race by they are obviously contributing to making our neighborhoods more hazardous however, they are also disturbing the peace and sense of safety one should have in their own home or backyard.

Thank you for your time with this matter,  
Bailey Clark

Sent from my iPhone

# **HB1333 vehicle noise.pdf**

Uploaded by: Barbara Sollner-Webb

Position: FAV

Hello! I am Barbara Sollner-Webb, President of West Laurel Civic Association, begging you -- on behalf of our over 3,000 tax-paying members -- to pass HB1333. The tranquility of our neighborhood, as well as inordinately many others across Maryland, has been incredibly bothered by excessively loud vehicular noise. Vast numbers of neighbors have complained about this racket, and the dangerous driving that accompanies it. Please realize that we are not talking about heartening sounds of vehicles transporting individuals and materials to foster a robust economy. But rather, increasingly much in the last two years, we have been bothered by herds of hot-rods and other souped-up vehicles, driving excessively fast and emitting ear-splittingly loud noise, many I am told being vehicles that have been altered specifically to make disturbingly loud noise. While I understand that some individuals have no way to boost their ego or proclaim their self-worth other than driving around, emitting hellishly loud sounds as well as planet-damaging greenhouse gases, I feel it is not their right to disturb everyone else's tranquility in order to engage in such self-centered gratification. Please pass HB1333, that puts teeth into diminishing noise for noise's sake.

**Calverton testimony HB1333 8102022.pdf**

Uploaded by: Bernadine Karns

Position: FAV

***Calverton Citizens Association***  
***P. O. Box 21***  
**Beltsville, Maryland 20704-0021**

March 8, 2022

Maryland General Assembly  
Environment and Transportation Committee  
HB1333 - Motor Vehicles - Modified Vehicle Exhaust System – Penalties

The Calverton Citizens Association along with many other communities throughout Maryland cannot wait any longer for something to be done regarding noisy vehicles on our road. HB1333 cannot get passed soon enough.

Communities and most residents of Maryland need help to tell other residents that you need to be considerate and caring of other residents. Many people are worried of retaliation. We all need to live in Maryland working together to make life peaceful and safe for all us. We cannot have a few residents think that they have a right to do anything that they want to do because it makes them happy, despite what everyone thinks.

There should be no reason why someone standing a football field (300 feet, 100 yards) from a vehicle should hear that vehicle going down the road, farther down the road, and even farther down the road. People should not even hear that vehicle 50 feet away from the source just like all the noise ordinances that are in place in the counties in the state. The noise all day long and all night long has gotten ridiculous. It is just ridiculous that many people living in Maryland think that everything that they do all about “ME.” This behavior should not be tolerated. Please pass HB 1033.

Thank you for your time.

Bernadine Karns, Acting President  
Calverton Citizens Association  
P.O. Box 21  
Beltsville, MD 20704-0021

Bernadine Karns, Acting President  
3005 Gazebo Court  
Silver Spring, MD 20904-1867

# **HB1333 Rigby Favorable.pdf**

Uploaded by: Christiana Rigby

Position: FAV



# Howard County Council

George Howard Building  
3430 Court House Drive  
Ellicott City, Maryland 21043-4392

Christiana Rigby  
Councilmember

District 3

## TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB1333

### Motor Vehicles – Modified Vehicle Exhaust System – Penalties

March 10, 2022

Dear Chair Barve, Vice Chair Stein, and Members of the Environment and Transportation Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony to the Committee. I am writing to express my **support for HB1333**, legislation introduced by Delegate Lehman which would increase penalties and strengthen the regulations on illegal vehicle exhaust modifications in Maryland.

Exhaust system modifications, often referred to as muffler modifications, occur when the exhaust system of a vehicle is illegally modified to increase the noise emitted from the car. This significantly increases the noise from vehicle exhaust systems, even when cars are driven at lower speeds. This practice of exhaust modifications has been illegal in Maryland for many years, yet the problem has persisted in neighborhoods and streets across the state.

Over the last four years, my office has heard countless complaints from Howard County residents and community associations pertaining to drag racing and extremely loud vehicles coming through neighborhoods. These cars have typically had their exhaust systems modified to increase the noise emitted from the vehicles. This noise pollution causes many residents a great deal of stress and anxiety, especially at night and when accompanied by drag racing and other dangerous driving behaviors.

Currently, the deterrents against these modifications are not strong enough to change the behavior of individuals who modify their cars. HB1333 aims to address that issue by increasing the fines on motorists and requiring police officers to issue a safety equipment repair order. This legislation will give local jurisdictions the tools we need to begin addressing this issue for the benefit of our community's health and wellbeing.

In 2021, the State of New York passed similar legislation to address exhaust modifications. New York significantly increased fines on both motorists and auto shops that violate the laws on illegal exhaust modifications. Lawmakers in New York recognized exactly what many residents and lawmakers in Maryland recognize today – we need stronger laws on the books to deter these illegal modifications.

HB1333 will aid our efforts to make our streets safer and more comfortable for our constituents. Thank you for your consideration of this legislation. I respectfully encourage a favorable report.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Christiana Rigby".

Christiana Rigby  
Howard County Councilmember, District 3



# **Committee testimony on HB 1333.pdf**

Uploaded by: Hector Rodriguez

Position: FAV

## Committee testimony on House Bill 1333

My name is Hector R Rodriguez and I live at 6960 Sunfleck Row in Columbia, Maryland. We have lived there over thirty-three years. In the last year or so our neighbors and we have experienced the plague of extremely loud cars using Cradlerock Way and Homespun Lane to drive the local residents crazy. These young drivers consider this activity their right and consider that they are exercising their "freedom" to assault the neighborhood with rude and violent shockwaves of excessive noise from their moving machines. Some of these young men have even stopped to remonstrate when one of our neighbors have looked with surprise and displeasure as they were so assaulted as they cut their grass while the offending motorists passed by. One of our neighbors is dealing with serious, if not terminal, cancer who seeks only the quiet time to recover from her serious illness. Another family whose property backs up to Homespun Lane recently invested in building themselves a deck, which they have not been able to enjoy given the constant barrage of shock waves from so many revving engines.

This bill is the minimum to be expected of our elected officials. Much more remains to be done, including the training of our law enforcement officers to literally and proactively keep the peace in our neighborhoods.

Little did we know when we moved to Columbia and Howard County over three decades ago that the peaceful, idyllic and environmentally sound community would become unlivable so quickly.

Thank you for acting favorably on this house bill as the first of many steps to regain the tranquility which makes for the positive raising of our families in Maryland.

**HB\_1333\_Favorable\_Jeremie\_Jordan.pdf**

Uploaded by: Jeramie Jordan

Position: FAV

Delegate Kumar P. Barve  
Chairman of the House Environmental Transportation Committee  
Room 251  
House Office Building  
Annapolis, MD 21401

To whom it may concern,

Over the years the number of overly modified vehicles operating on the roadways of the state have increased. With the ease of accessing parts through online retailers and directions on how to modify the vehicles being easily accessible through online forms and Youtube, more vehicle owners are installing illegal modifications on their vehicles.

Many modifications made to vehicles are purely cosmetic and cause no danger or disturbances to other drivers on the roadway and the surrounding communities. Modification of the exhaust system is not one of those modifications. Vehicle manufactures undergo extensive testing and certification by regulatory bodies to ensure the exhaust system on vehicles operate in a way that reduces the emission of damaging greenhouse gasses. The testing also requires that the sound levels of the exhaust system does not rise above a generally acceptable level during normal operation. With modified exhaust that cause excessive noise, drivers will be unable to hear necessary sounds around them such as emergency vehicles responding to calls or other drivers honking their horn to warn of danger. The loud sound also distracts drivers and pedestrians potentially causing them to become inattentive to their surroundings. Failure to have full attention when on and around roadways may cause a danger for all citizens in the area.

A progressive increase in the penalty, as proposed in HB1333, for the violation of Transportation Article 22-609 will be a better deterrent to violators of the law and demonstrate that the State of Maryland will not allow unsafe vehicle to operate on the roadways. I encourage a favorable vote for HB1333.

Sincerely,

Jeramie Jordan

# **HB1333\_FAV\_Petrushka**

Uploaded by: John Petrushka

Position: FAV

Written Testimony concerning HB1333: *Motor Vehicles - Modified Vehicle Exhaust System - Penalties*

March 9, 2022

Dear Members of the Environment and Transportation Committee of the Maryland House of Delegates:

I write in support of HB1333 and urge the Committee to approve its consideration in the full House of Delegates as soon as possible.

I am a resident of the Wheaton area of Silver Spring and live two blocks from Georgia Avenue. Since mid-2020, my neighbors and I, with few exceptions, have heard vehicles with modified exhaust systems drive down Georgia Avenue at all hours of the day, often hearing them pass within minutes of each other. The vehicle modifications that cause this are proliferating: previously, the modified vehicles could only be witnessed driving down Georgia Avenue. Since January 2022, however, I have seen increasing numbers of vehicles parked in my neighborhood sporting modified exhaust systems, and though their cruising speed is lower on our street, the noise they generate is impossible to miss once in operation. Failing to curb this behavior now will ensure that the problem continues to worsen.

Encountering these modified vehicles is a frequent occurrence in other parts of Maryland I have visited as well, but rather than share more anecdotes, I note here that this phenomenon has caught the attention of many others. *NBC 4 Washington* [reported](#) on the trend last summer and noted that police in Gaithersburg stopped over 100 vehicles with modified exhaust systems in *just one night* last year.

This is a nuisance to many Maryland residents, but I am particularly concerned for those who may be uniquely vulnerable to the effects of modified exhaust systems. For example, I have noticed that some systems produce sounds akin to gunshots when a driver accelerates and then lets off the gas – medical professionals [cite](#) backfiring cars as a trigger of post-traumatic stress syndrome symptoms among veterans.

The enforcement and penalties currently in place for illegal exhaust modifications are evidently insufficient to deter their growing use. I reiterate my support for HB1333 and urge a favorable Committee decision and its ultimate ratification.

Respectfully,

John A. Petrushka, Jr.

# **Maryland Coalition For Highway Safety - ENT Submis**

Uploaded by: John Seng

Position: FAV



**HB1333**  
**“Motor Vehicles – Modified  
Vehicle Exhaust System –  
Penalties”**  
**PLEASE SUPPORT**

## **MARYLAND COALITION FOR HIGHWAY SAFETY**

### **SUPPORTS HB1333**

March 8, 2022

To:

Honorable Kumar Barve, Chair

Members of the Maryland House of Delegates Committee on Environment and Transportation

FROM:

John J. Seng, Director

*Maryland Coalition For Highway Safety*

[JohnJSeng@gmail.com](mailto:JohnJSeng@gmail.com)

(202) 468-7682

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/marylandcoalitionhighwaysafety>

My name is John Seng, volunteer director and founder of the *Maryland Coalition For Highway Safety*.

Our 175-member organization unequivocally supports the enactment of HB1333, “Motor Vehicles – Modified Vehicle Exhaust System – Penalties,” as introduced by Delegates Lehman, Palakovich Carr, Pena–Melnyk, Solomon, and Watson.

Our founding organizations include the *American Automobile Association (AAA) Mid-Atlantic*, the *Greater Olney Civic Association*, *The Route 210 Traffic Safety Committee* in Prince George’s County and a group of Maryland home owner associations.

#### **The Problem**

Throughout Maryland, homeowners and motorists complain about exceedingly loud motor vehicles, be they automobiles or motorcycles on our roadways. Invariably, these excessive and illegal levels of noise result from the illegal installation of aftermarket, illegal exhaust systems. Operators may order these illegal parts online from out-of-state providers, but also from merchants within Maryland who knowingly – and defiantly – market and sell aftermarket products that are illegally installed.



We also believe that operators who exhibit a propensity to willfully break the law in modifying their vehicles may likely be more inclined to behave illegally while traveling on public roads: Speeding as well as reckless, aggressive and/or distracted driving.

Furthermore, the disregard for excessive noise extends into harm to human hearing, especially in vulnerable children and people suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD).

Please do not fall victim to the lobbying interests of the Specialty Equipment Market Association (SEMA) which seeks to “guarantee your right to modify street cars, trucks, and motorcycles into dedicated race vehicles” without any regard for the likelihood that most miles driven by their race car enthusiasts take place on public roads through otherwise peaceful communities.

Marylanders, those traveling through our State and especially all people living here – your constituents – deserve enhanced protection from disturbances to peaceful living.

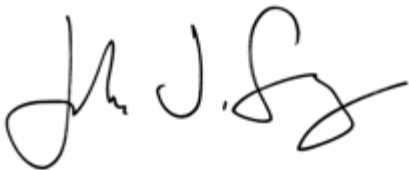
### **Towards A Solution**

HB1333 puts more teeth in current Maryland laws by requiring equipment repair orders for vehicle operators cited with exhaust system violations, in addition to a citation charging operators with an offense, with stepped-up increase in fines for subsequent offenses.

### **Taking Positive Steps**

We thank you and the Committee for your review of our position, and urge you to submit a favorable recommendation and support for HB1333.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John J. Seng". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "John" being the most prominent.

John J. Seng  
Director

Attachment: Letter to Delegate Lehman from Reverend Dr. Robert L. Screen

cc: *Coalition* membership

March 7, 2022

Delegate Mary Lehman  
District 21  
Maryland General Assembly

Delegate Lehman,

I, Rev. Dr. Robert L. Screen, Lead Facilitator of the 210 Traffic Safety Committee of Prince George's County and member of the Maryland Coalition for Highway Safety, do hereby submit my support for the passage of Bill HB 1333, Excessive Motor Vehicle Noise.

In agreement with enforcement actions that enhance and promote civil and safe behavior on our Maryland Roadways, I believe the quality of life issue, that this bill directly targets, is in agreement with each Marylander's desire for a more peaceful, and gentile transportation environment that's in the best interest of those who hold dear these qualities.

Rev. Dr. Robert L. Screen  
210 Traffic Safety Committee  
Maryland Coalition for Highway Safety

# **HB1333 Modified vehicle exhaus.pdf**

Uploaded by: Karen Coakley

Position: FAV

To: Chairperson Delegate Kumar and Vice Chairperson Dana Stein,  
Members of the Environment and Transportation Committee

From Karen Coakley President Beltsville Citizen's Association

Re: HB1333 Motor Vehicles - Modified Vehicle Exhaust System - Penalties

I'm sure most of you are aware that certain animals begin to hibernate in the fall...sleeping through the winter months. Occasionally a stray animal will come out from hibernation and be seen and heard. Once spring arrives they come out of their shelter. ..They are playing and scampering about through the spring and summer months. Fortunately most animals do not have loud obnoxious toys. Humans do! The toys I'm referring to are human toys...automobiles with super loud modified mufflers. During the fall and winter months you do not hear the constant loud roar from a modified muffler. Humans go in to a partial hibernation too. Once spring and summer arrives so does the roar of the modified muffler. If it is a nice day or evening humans are out racing around with their toys (cars with modified mufflers). It is bad enough when you have to listen to the single modified muffler. When the racing groups are out there you have 20,30 50 plus cars modified mufflers on the roads. 20,30,50 plus roaring modified mufflers!!! To add insult to injury the drivers rev up the roar when they are at a stop sign or red light. The noise from the modified mufflers can be heard near and far. I live approximately 1.3 miles from the Washington Beltway and 1/2 a mile from Route 1. Warmer weather is just around the corner I love opening my windows to let the fresh air in. I do not enjoy letting the noise into my home. I look forward to ending a stressful day relaxing on my patio when the weather is warm. I enjoy listening to the birds chirping, children playing.... I do not enjoy the music provided by the extreme modified mufflers. I realize the owners and drivers might consider the roar of a modified muffler "Music". I do not!!!! I am not the only one offended by the roar of the modified mufflers. As a community activist one of the Biggest complaints I have received over the past couple of years is the constant noise these modified mufflers are bringing into the community. I meet with other community leaders on a monthly basis to discuss mutual problems and concerns. The modified mufflers is a regional problem! Whether it's a lone driver going up-and-down the neighborhood streets or the racing groups drive driving on the highways. Please turn back the clock on the modified mufflers and pass HB1333. Please restore some tranquility for the

residents of Maryland by passing HB1333. Please end the modified mufflers.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Karen M Coakley". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right.

Karen Coakley  
President Beltsville Citizen's Association  
4412 Tonquil Street  
Beltsville, Maryland 20705

**HB 1333 Modified Muffler LEHMAN WRITTEN TESTIMONY.**

Uploaded by: Mary Lehman

Position: FAV



THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES  
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

**HB 1333 – MOTOR VEHICLES – MODIFIED VEHICLE EXHAUST SYSTEM -  
PENALITIES**

GOOD AFTERNOON CHAIR BARVE, MR. VICE CHAIR AND COLLEAGUES. I AM ASKING YOUR FAVORABLE REPORT FOR HB 1333. THIS BILL REPEALS AND AMENDS A CURRENT STATUTE THAT PROHIBITS THE MOFICATION OF MOTOR VEHICLE EXHAUST SYSTEMS OR OTHER NOISE ABATEMENT DEVICES THAT INCREASE THE NOISE ABOVE THE MANUFACTURED LEVEL. IN PARTICULAR, HB 1333 PENALIZES INDIVIDUALS DRIVING SUCH A VEHICLE ON ANY HIGHWAY AND PROVIDES AN EXEMPTION FOR CERTAIN REGISTERED HISTORIC MOTOR VEHICLES.

NOISE POLLUTION HAS BECOME AN AREA OF GREATER CONCERN IN RECENT YEARS BECAUSE OF ITS HAZARDOUS EFFECT ON OUR HEALTH, ENVIRONMENT AND QUALITY OF LIFE. NOISE PRODUCED BY VEHICLE TRAFFIC IS ONE OF THE MAJOR CAUSES OF NOISE POLLUTION AND HAS RISEN SUBSTANTIALLY WITH THE INCREASED NUMBER OF MOTOR VEHICLES ON HIGHWAYS. ALTHOUGH HB1333 IS NOT INTENDED TO CREATE A SIGNIFICANT REDUCTION IN THE LEVEL OF NOISE POLLUTION IN THE STATE, WE BELIEVE THIS IS A STEP TOWARD REDUCING SOME OF ITS NEGATIVE IMPACT ON OUR HEALTH.

I RECENTLY RECEIVED A LETTER FROM ONE OF OUR CONSTITUENTS WHO LIVES WITH HIS FAMILY ON FLORAL DRIVE IN ADELPHI. FLORAL DRIVE IS IN A LOVELY, WELL-ESTABLISHED COMMUNITY OFF RIGGS ROAD WHERE MANY OF THE NEIGHBORS HAVE OWNED THEIR HOMES FOR DECADES. RIGGS ROAD IS A COUNTY ROAD OFF NEW HAMPSHIRE AVENUE AND A CUT THROUGH TO ROUTE 495.

HE STATED:

“I HAVE BEEN SHOCKED AWAKE IN THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT BY THESE UNREASONABLY LOUD CARS RIPPING UP AND DOWN FLORAL DRIVE.... IN ADDITION TO MY LOSS OF SLEEP, THE PETS MANY OF US HAVE ARE ALSO ADVERSELY AFFECTED BY THIS BLARING LOUD NOISE AND IN SOME CASES CAN REQUIRE HOURS TO REGAIN THEIR NORMAL BEHAVIOR.

I HAVE COMPLAINED AND ASKED FOR HELP HERE IN MY NEIGHBORHOOD AGAINST THESE LOUD SPEEDERS WITH NO RELIEF FOR FAR TOO LONG. IT IS HIGH TIME THAT THERE BE SUBSTANTIAL PENALTIES ASSESSED AGAINST THESE INCONSIDERATE DRIVERS AND THAT THEY BE REQUIRED BY LAW TO MEET BOTH STATE AND LOCAL NOISE ABATEMENT STANDARDS.”

CURRENTLY, THE ANNOTATED CODE OF MARYLAND TRANSPORTATION SECTION 22-609 PROHIBITS MODIFYING MOTOR VEHICLE EXHAUST SYSTEMS AND DRIVING VEHICLES THAT HAVE BEEN SO MODIFIED. UNFORTUNATELY, BECAUSE THERE ARE NO PENALTIES ATTACHED TO VIOLATING THIS STATUTE, ENFORCEMENT IS DIFFICULT FORCING CONSTITUENTS LIKE MINE TO CONTINUE TO SUFFER. BY AUTHORIZING A POLICE OFFICER TO ISSUE A “SAFETY EQUIPMENT REPAIR ORDER” AND FINE OF UP TO \$400 TO THE DRIVER OF A VEHICLE THAT VIOLATES THIS LAW,



WE WILL BE TAKING A SMALL STEP TOWARD REDUCING NOISE POLLUTION IN MARYLAND. MORE IMPORTANTLY, WE WILL HAVE TAKEN A MAJOR STEP TOWARD REDUCING THE HEALTH HAZARDS CONSTITUENTS EXPERIENCE WHEN AWAKENED BY THE LOUD NOISE OF CARS ROARING THROUGH THEIR NEIGHBORHOODS AT NIGHT. THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION. I URGE A FAVORABLE REPORT!

###

# **HB1333\_FAV\_City of Rockville\_Modified Veh. Exhaust**

Uploaded by: Pam Kasemeyer

Position: FAV



**Testimony of the Mayor and Council of Rockville**  
**HB 1333 – Motor Vehicles – Modified Vehicle Exhaust System – Penalties**  
**SUPPORT**

The Rockville Mayor and Council thank Chairman Barve and the members of the House Environment and Transportation Committee for the opportunity to comment on HB 1333. We are thankful to Delegate Lehman for sponsoring this important legislation.

The Rockville Mayor and Council strongly support this legislation. As you consider the merits of this legislation, we urge the Committee to provide HB 1333 with a favorable report and forward it to the House floor for a vote.

HB 1333 increases the fines for modified exhaust systems and any other noise abatement devices in a motor vehicle. The penalty for a first violation is a \$200 fine, \$300 for the second, and \$400 for the third and subsequent violations. HB 1333 also requires the issuance of a repair order from the police officer that observes the vehicle that is in violation.

Excessive loud noise emitted from cars with modified exhaust systems is a major problem in Rockville that emerged during the pandemic. Our residents are very concerned about these frequent loud noises, which disturb our neighborhoods. The excessive noise is often accompanied with dangerous driving habits. Our Police Department is forced to devote more resources for traffic enforcement, while balancing other essential public safety needs. We support the stronger penalties in HB 1333, which are necessary to protect the community from this public safety issue.

The Rockville City Police have diligently enforced excessive noise emitted from vehicles with illegally modified exhaust systems. Since the fall of 2020, they have issued hundreds of enforcement actions, including citations, warnings, and Safety and Equipment Repair Orders. Additionally, in concert with Gaithersburg, Montgomery County, the State of Maryland, and the Maryland Transportation Authority Police Departments, they are collaborating to find solutions and respond to this challenging issue, which crosses jurisdictional borders.

HB 1333 is smart public policy that would equip officers with additional enforcement tools to address this issue and provide relief to our residents. We ask for your support for this legislation.

# **Stephen SmithHB1333Testimony.pdf**

Uploaded by: Stephen Smith

Position: FAV

**Stephen G. Smith**  
**10201 Riggs Road**  
**Adelphi, Maryland 20783**

301-445-0093

[stephensmith110@aol.com](mailto:stephensmith110@aol.com)

I am writing in support of HB-1333, Modified Vehicle Exhaust System - Penalties

I reside on Route 212, Riggs Road in Prince George's County and we are plagued with a dozen or more daily passages of vehicles with intentionally modified exhaust systems which emit loud noise including some that emit a continuous stream of backfiring. This disturbing practice has grown steadily over the last three years. Some of these vehicles can be heard nearly a mile away as they approach and another mile beyond after they pass our home. The noise these vehicles emit is clearly well in excess of original manufacturer exhaust equipment. Their operation is often accompanied by excessive speeding. The majority of the population is greatly offended that the State Legislature and law enforcement agencies are unwilling to effectively address this problem.

I believe that the higher fines proposed in HB-1333 will act as a deterrent to the violators. In addition, I hope that the higher fines act as a spur to law enforcement that they recognize the public want the noise violations laws to be enforced.

Stephen Smith

10201 Riggs Road

Adelphi, MD 20783

# **HB1333 Testimony 3.8.22.pdf**

Uploaded by: Tom Dernoga

Position: FAV



**Thomas E. Dernoga**  
Council Member  
District 1

"Effective. Responsive. Committed."

March 8, 2022

Environment and Transportation Committee  
House Office Building  
6 Bladen Street, Room 251  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

**RE: HB1333 Motor Vehicles - Modified Vehicle Exhaust System - Penalties**  
**Position: Support**

Dear Chairman Barve and Members of the Committee,

I strongly urge you to give a favorable report to House Bill (HB) 1333 to alter the penalty for modifying a motor vehicle exhaust system or noise abatement device while establishing certain exceptions.

I represent the furthest northern district of Prince George's County with three different legislative districts: 21, 23A, and 47B. We are adjacent to Montgomery, Howard, and Anne Arundel Counties. The district includes the unincorporated areas Adelphi, Beltsville, Calverton, Montpelier, South Laurel, West Laurel, Vansville and the municipalities of Laurel and College Park.

HB 1333 will provide an additional set of enforcement tools in Section 22-609. Previously, there were no financial deterrents for operating a vehicle with a modified exhaust system. The new fees will disincentivize drivers from modifying their vehicle's exhaust system. In addition to the fines established in HB1333, the bill authorizes the enforcing officers to issue an equipment repair order to the individual in an effort to restore the vehicle to the original design. The issuance of the repair order is key to ensuring the effectiveness of HB1333.

I do implore the committee to be mindful of the potential subjectiveness of the bill regarding officers and the officers' consideration of those in violation of Section 22-609. The committee should look to clarify what an officer must see or hear in order to begin the enforcement. In addition to the concern of potential subjectiveness in HB1333, the committee should seek detailed reporting of the violations and fines distributed to avoid a disparate impact on already marginalized communities.

Altered exhaust systems and vehicle noise complaints have plagued District 1. This is the right thing to do and for the reasons stated above, I respectfully request a **favorable report** for HB 1333. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Thomas E. Dernoga

**letter of support\_ HB1333 Muffler noise.pdf**

Uploaded by: Tom Hucker

Position: FAV





**MONTGOMERY COUNTY COUNCIL**  
ROCKVILLE, MARYLAND

**TOM HUCKER**  
Councilmember

Member, Public Safety Committee  
Chair, Transportation & Environment Committee

March 10, 2022

Dear members of the Environment and Transportation Committee,

I submit this testimony in support of HB 1333, Motor Vehicles - Modified Vehicle Exhaust System - Penalties. This bill represents one element of a legislative toolkit that leverages the power of the state government and its law enforcement partners to curb displays of reckless driving and car meetups.

Over the past year, jurisdictions throughout the state have reported a scourge of car rallies on public streets. These events often involve reckless driving on neighborhood streets, large crowds, blocked roadways, and prolonged noise disturbances. Many residents have reached out to me to express their concerns about this behavior and its detrimental effect on both safety and quality of life. Furthermore, these events have caused significant strain on police resources as well as increased overtime costs.

I support establishing a penalty for car owners who modify their vehicles to create excessive noise and undue nuisance. I hope that the increased financial penalty will deter drivers from installing after-market modifications.

This is reasonable, common-sense legislation that enhances the ability of law enforcement to address the proliferation of ear-shattering muffler noise that accompanies the dangerous –and potentially fatal –displays of stunt driving. I urge the committee to support this bill that will help ensure safer roadways and protect our residents' quality of life and right to quiet enjoyment.

Sincerely,

Tom Hucker  
Councilmember

# **Gmail - HB 1333 Testimony-10-UNF.pdf**

Uploaded by: Ken Eaton

Position: UNF



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## HB 1333 Testimony

1 message

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**ABATE Webiste** <abateofmdinc@gmail.com>  
To: abateofmdinc@gmail.com

Fri, Mar 4, 2022 at 9:50 AM

### HB 1333 - Motor Vehicles - Modified Vehicle Exhaust System - Penalties

Do Not Support

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**I DO NOT SUPPORT HB1333 as it adds additional penalties to a violation of one of the “tools in our toolbox” to prevent accidents. All on-road vehicles could be affected by this penalty provision. The stock configuration of vehicles does not produce the optimum performance or configuration for all people. Some people seek performance enhancements for additional power for towing, long distance cruising/riding, comfort, better fuel economy, and some for plain personalization of their vehicle. The penalties attached to this bill will severely affect the aftermarket parts market and will have a detrimental effect on safety. I DO NOT SUPPORT HB 1333 - Motor Vehicles - Modified Vehicle Exhaust System - Penalties. I urge the committee to consider an UnFavorable vote.**

Please give this bill an unfavorable vote.

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#### Name

Linda Wainer

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#### Physical Address

[706 Dewey Ave](#)  
Salisbury, MD  
21804  
US

# **Gmail - HB 1333 Testimony-11-UNF.pdf**

Uploaded by: Ken Eaton

Position: UNF



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## HB 1333 Testimony

1 message

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**ABATE Webiste** <abateofmdinc@gmail.com>  
To: abateofmdinc@gmail.com

Fri, Mar 4, 2022 at 9:17 AM

### HB 1333 - Motor Vehicles - Modified Vehicle Exhaust System - Penalties

Do Not Support

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**I DO NOT SUPPORT HB1333 as it adds additional penalties to a violation of one of the “tools in our toolbox” to prevent accidents. All on-road vehicles could be affected by this penalty provision. The stock configuration of vehicles does not produce the optimum performance or configuration for all people. Some people seek performance enhancements for additional power for towing, long distance cruising/riding, comfort, better fuel economy, and some for plain personalization of their vehicle. The penalties attached to this bill will severely affect the aftermarket parts market and will have a detrimental effect on safety. I DO NOT SUPPORT HB 1333 - Motor Vehicles - Modified Vehicle Exhaust System - Penalties. I urge the committee to consider an UnFavorable vote.**

Being able to customize my bike to include louder exhaust has stopped many possible accidents because of people not paying attention to motorcycles. I have added extra lights and colored lights for people to be able to see me and have customized my exhaust so people can hear me in order for people to see and hear me because with so many people not paying attention and being on their phones all the time there have been way too many close calls with cars

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#### Name

John Nickoles

---

#### Physical Address

[3740 Nicholson Rd](#)  
Westminster, AL  
21157  
US



# **Gmail - HB 1333 Testimony-12-UNF.pdf**

Uploaded by: Ken Eaton

Position: UNF

**HB 1333 Testimony**

1 message

**ABATE Webiste** <abateofmdinc@gmail.com>

Thu, Mar 3, 2022 at 9:16 PM

To: abateofmdinc@gmail.com

**HB 1333 - Motor Vehicles - Modified Vehicle Exhaust System - Penalties**

Do Not Support

**I DO NOT SUPPORT HB1333 as it adds additional penalties to a violation of one of the “tools in our toolbox” to prevent accidents. All on-road vehicles could be affected by this penalty provision. The stock configuration of vehicles does not produce the optimum performance or configuration for all people. Some people seek performance enhancements for additional power for towing, long distance cruising/riding, comfort, better fuel economy, and some for plain personalization of their vehicle. The penalties attached to this bill will severely affect the aftermarket parts market and will have a detrimental effect on safety. I DO NOT SUPPORT HB 1333 - Motor Vehicles - Modified Vehicle Exhaust System - Penalties. I urge the committee to consider an UnFavorable vote.**

Chairman Barve and Members of the Environment and Transportation Committee,

I respectfully ask that you not support this bill and vote for an unfavorable report. There are many reasons an individual may alter the factory exhaust system of a vehicle and many do nothing more than increase the efficiency of the vehicle. With the current fervor to increase Miles Per Gallon of vehicles I would like to give you my personal experience. I had my stock mufflers on my motorcycle changed which had a negligible effect on the decibel level but increased my MPG by 5 MPG. This change took place at the very end of the system and did nothing to change the emissions. By my calculations I have saved over 150 gallons of gas in the life of this motorcycle alone. Please do not restrict individuals abilities to make their vehicles more efficient or fit the vehicle to their personal need and preferences.

Also, as a concerned rider who lived in Maryland but has since moved to Pennsylvania because of the anti-motorcycle bias so prevalent in Maryland I do not want to face fines for riding my legal Pennsylvania motorcycle in Maryland.

Respectfully,

Steven P. Strohmer  
Member ABATE of Maryland**Name**

Steven Strohmer

**Physical Address**322 Lay Road  
Delta, PA  
17314  
US



**Gmail - HB 1333 Testimony-2-UNF.pdf**

Uploaded by: Ken Eaton

Position: UNF



ABATE of Maryland, Inc. <abateofmdinc@gmail.com>

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## HB 1333 Testimony

1 message

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**ABATE Webiste** <abateofmdinc@gmail.com>  
To: abateofmdinc@gmail.com

Sat, Mar 5, 2022 at 7:55 AM

**HB 1333 - Motor Vehicles - Modified Vehicle Exhaust System - Penalties**

Do Not Support

---

**Name**

Nicholas Boyle

---

**Physical Address**

[730 fox meadow rd](#)  
Queen Anne, MD  
21657  
US

Sent from ABATE OF MD, INC

**Gmail - HB 1333 Testimony-3-UNF.pdf**

Uploaded by: Ken Eaton

Position: UNF



ABATE of Maryland, Inc. <abateofmdinc@gmail.com>

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## HB 1333 Testimony

1 message

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**ABATE Webiste** <abateofmdinc@gmail.com>  
To: abateofmdinc@gmail.com

Sat, Mar 5, 2022 at 7:15 AM

**HB 1333 - Motor Vehicles - Modified Vehicle Exhaust System - Penalties**

Do Not Support

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**Name**

Tom Godfrey

---

**Physical Address**

926 Sunday Dr  
Denton, MD  
21629  
US

Sent from ABATE OF MD, INC

**Gmail - HB 1333 Testimony-4-UNF.pdf**

Uploaded by: Ken Eaton

Position: UNF



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## HB 1333 Testimony

1 message

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**ABATE Webiste** <abateofmdinc@gmail.com>  
To: abateofmdinc@gmail.com

Fri, Mar 4, 2022 at 1:23 PM

### HB 1333 - Motor Vehicles - Modified Vehicle Exhaust System - Penalties

Do Not Support

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**I DO NOT SUPPORT HB1333 as it adds additional penalties to a violation of one of the “tools in our toolbox” to prevent accidents. All on-road vehicles could be affected by this penalty provision. The stock configuration of vehicles does not produce the optimum performance or configuration for all people. Some people seek performance enhancements for additional power for towing, long distance cruising/riding, comfort, better fuel economy, and some for plain personalization of their vehicle. The penalties attached to this bill will severely affect the aftermarket parts market and will have a detrimental effect on safety. I DO NOT SUPPORT HB 1333 - Motor Vehicles - Modified Vehicle Exhaust System - Penalties. I urge the committee to consider an UnFavorable vote.**

There are already noise ordinances in place to deal with such things. Singling out groups and imposing inflated fines or regulations is horrasment.

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#### Name

Thomas Superczynski

---

#### Physical Address

[301 Bay Dale Dr.](#)  
Arnold, MD  
21012  
US

**Gmail - HB 1333 Testimony-5-UNF.pdf**

Uploaded by: Ken Eaton

Position: UNF



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## HB 1333 Testimony

1 message

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**ABATE Webiste** <abateofmdinc@gmail.com>  
To: abateofmdinc@gmail.com

Fri, Mar 4, 2022 at 11:27 AM

### HB 1333 - Motor Vehicles - Modified Vehicle Exhaust System - Penalties

Do Not Support

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**I DO NOT SUPPORT HB1333 as it adds additional penalties to a violation of one of the “tools in our toolbox” to prevent accidents. All on-road vehicles could be affected by this penalty provision. The stock configuration of vehicles does not produce the optimum performance or configuration for all people. Some people seek performance enhancements for additional power for towing, long distance cruising/riding, comfort, better fuel economy, and some for plain personalization of their vehicle. The penalties attached to this bill will severely affect the aftermarket parts market and will have a detrimental effect on safety. I DO NOT SUPPORT HB 1333 - Motor Vehicles - Modified Vehicle Exhaust System - Penalties. I urge the committee to consider an UnFavorable vote.**

After market exhausts improve performance and help avoid accidents with distracted drivers

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#### Name

Charlie Grizzle

---

#### Physical Address

[12406 Sir Lancelot Drive](#)  
Glenn Dale , MD  
20769  
US



**Gmail - HB 1333 Testimony-6-UNF.pdf**

Uploaded by: Ken Eaton

Position: UNF



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## HB 1333 Testimony

1 message

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**ABATE Webiste** <abateofmdinc@gmail.com>  
To: abateofmdinc@gmail.com

Fri, Mar 4, 2022 at 11:10 AM

### HB 1333 - Motor Vehicles - Modified Vehicle Exhaust System - Penalties

Do Not Support

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**I DO NOT SUPPORT HB1333 as it adds additional penalties to a violation of one of the “tools in our toolbox” to prevent accidents. All on-road vehicles could be affected by this penalty provision. The stock configuration of vehicles does not produce the optimum performance or configuration for all people. Some people seek performance enhancements for additional power for towing, long distance cruising/riding, comfort, better fuel economy, and some for plain personalization of their vehicle. The penalties attached to this bill will severely affect the aftermarket parts market and will have a detrimental effect on safety. I DO NOT SUPPORT HB 1333 - Motor Vehicles - Modified Vehicle Exhaust System - Penalties. I urge the committee to consider an UnFavorable vote.**

Please consider this Unfavorable.

---

#### Name

RICHARD DIXON

---

#### Physical Address

[5012 Drawbridge Rd](#)  
Cambridge, MD  
21613  
US

**Gmail - HB 1333 Testimony-7-UNF.pdf**

Uploaded by: Ken Eaton

Position: UNF



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## HB 1333 Testimony

1 message

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**ABATE Webiste** <abateofmdinc@gmail.com>  
To: abateofmdinc@gmail.com

Fri, Mar 4, 2022 at 10:42 AM

### HB 1333 - Motor Vehicles - Modified Vehicle Exhaust System - Penalties

Do Not Support

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**I DO NOT SUPPORT HB1333 as it adds additional penalties to a violation of one of the “tools in our toolbox” to prevent accidents. All on-road vehicles could be affected by this penalty provision. The stock configuration of vehicles does not produce the optimum performance or configuration for all people. Some people seek performance enhancements for additional power for towing, long distance cruising/riding, comfort, better fuel economy, and some for plain personalization of their vehicle. The penalties attached to this bill will severely affect the aftermarket parts market and will have a detrimental effect on safety. I DO NOT SUPPORT HB 1333 - Motor Vehicles - Modified Vehicle Exhaust System - Penalties. I urge the committee to consider an UnFavorable vote.**

Do something about diesel and a multitude of trucks down shifting!

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#### Name

Pam Hamburg

---

#### Physical Address

[212 Frock Dr.](#)  
Westminster, MD  
21157  
US

# **Gmail - HB 1333 Testimony-8-UNF.pdf**

Uploaded by: Ken Eaton

Position: UNF



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## HB 1333 Testimony

1 message

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**ABATE Webiste** <abateofmdinc@gmail.com>  
To: abateofmdinc@gmail.com

Fri, Mar 4, 2022 at 10:38 AM

### HB 1333 - Motor Vehicles - Modified Vehicle Exhaust System - Penalties

Do Not Support

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**I DO NOT SUPPORT HB1333 as it adds additional penalties to a violation of one of the “tools in our toolbox” to prevent accidents. All on-road vehicles could be affected by this penalty provision. The stock configuration of vehicles does not produce the optimum performance or configuration for all people. Some people seek performance enhancements for additional power for towing, long distance cruising/riding, comfort, better fuel economy, and some for plain personalization of their vehicle. The penalties attached to this bill will severely affect the aftermarket parts market and will have a detrimental effect on safety. I DO NOT SUPPORT HB 1333 - Motor Vehicles - Modified Vehicle Exhaust System - Penalties. I urge the committee to consider an UnFavorable vote.**

I don't support this bill

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#### Name

fred peake jr

---

#### Physical Address

[153 deale rd.](#)  
TRACYS LANDING, MD  
20779  
US

**Gmail - HB 1333 Testimony-9-UNF.pdf**

Uploaded by: Ken Eaton

Position: UNF



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## HB 1333 Testimony

1 message

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**ABATE Webiste** <abateofmdinc@gmail.com>  
To: abateofmdinc@gmail.com

Fri, Mar 4, 2022 at 10:24 AM

### HB 1333 - Motor Vehicles - Modified Vehicle Exhaust System - Penalties

Do Not Support

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**I DO NOT SUPPORT HB1333 as it adds additional penalties to a violation of one of the “tools in our toolbox” to prevent accidents. All on-road vehicles could be affected by this penalty provision. The stock configuration of vehicles does not produce the optimum performance or configuration for all people. Some people seek performance enhancements for additional power for towing, long distance cruising/riding, comfort, better fuel economy, and some for plain personalization of their vehicle. The penalties attached to this bill will severely affect the aftermarket parts market and will have a detrimental effect on safety. I DO NOT SUPPORT HB 1333 - Motor Vehicles - Modified Vehicle Exhaust System - Penalties. I urge the committee to consider an UnFavorable vote.**

I do not support this!

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#### Name

Bruno Genis

---

#### Physical Address

[3712 chestnut ave](#)  
Baltimore, AL  
21211  
US



# **Gmail - HB 1333 Testimony-UNF.pdf**

Uploaded by: Ken Eaton

Position: UNF



ABATE of Maryland, Inc. <abateofmdinc@gmail.com>

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## HB 1333 Testimony

1 message

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**ABATE Webiste** <abateofmdinc@gmail.com>  
To: abateofmdinc@gmail.com

Mon, Mar 7, 2022 at 7:06 AM

**HB 1333 - Motor Vehicles - Modified Vehicle Exhaust System - Penalties**

Do Not Support

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**Name**

Charles Schomann

---

**Physical Address**

[1901 old eastern ave](#)  
Essex , MD  
21221  
US

Sent from ABATE OF MD, INC

**HB1333\_KEaton-Testimony-UNF.pdf**

Uploaded by: Ken Eaton

Position: UNF

2021 / 2022 Director

Ken Eaton

2022 / 2022 County Representatives

Caroline: Jeff Kinnamon

Dorchester: John Knox

Queen Anne's: Marianne Jackson

Talbot: Jimmy Mountzalia



*Dedicated to Freedom of the Road &  
Responsible Motorcycle Legislation*

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To: The Honorable Kumar P. Barve, Chairman and Members of the Environment and Transportation Committee

From: Ken Eaton, Director, Mid-Shore Chapter

Date: March 1, 2022

Re: HB 1333 - Motor Vehicles - Modified Vehicle Exhaust System - Penalties

Position: **UNFAVORABLE: DOES NOT SUPPORT**

I am a motorcyclist, backyard car enthusiast (shade tree mechanic), a farmer, a registered voter, and a member of ABATE of Maryland, Inc., the largest motorcyclist rights organization in the state of Maryland. I personally own multiple vehicles of all types. At the farm, we have motorcycles, trucks, cars, tractors, trailers, etc. ABATE represents the approximately 114,000 on road motorcycles that are registered in Maryland. We have chapters throughout the state and our members include a diverse cross-section of motorcycle riders in Maryland. We **DO NOT SUPPORT HB1333** as it adds additional penalties to a violation of one of the “tools in our toolbox” to prevent accidents.

The best way to not be involved in an accident is to avoid them. ABATE of Maryland, Inc. is immensely proud of our involvement throughout the years with the Motorcycle Safety Program. Education and training are the primary tools for motorcycle safety. However, one of our last resorts is to make a lot of noise so that we can be seen. Countless riders can tell you how they feel invisible until they must “crack the throttle” to make the exhaust a bit louder. The phrase “Loud Pipes Save Lives” has a lot of meaning to a considerable number of riders on the road today. The sudden, loud noise can mean the difference between making it home and spending the night in the hospital. I have personally witnessed this more times than I care to remember throughout Maryland, and across this country, as a motorcyclist in the past 30+ years as a rider.

In addition, many of us are car/truck/motorcycle performance enthusiasts. We are “gear heads.” We enjoy seeing just how much we can improve the performance beyond what the original factory configuration provides. Many new motorcycle purchases start at twenty thousand dollars and go up. Most people then spend thousands of additional dollars customizing their motorcycles to suit their taste and comfort. We spend countless dollars on aftermarket and manufacturer provided, parts, tuner kits, high performance cams, ported heads, exhausts, and electronic control module updates. We upgrade tires, seats, mufflers, complete exhausts, ECM's, handlebars, foot pegs, headlights, heated gear, etc. All to customize our rides to our taste and to make the riding experience more enjoyable and SAFER. A rider that has tweaked his motorcycle (or car or truck) to fit his individual body and his style is more comfortable, more relaxed, has a better handling vehicle, and an overall more enjoyable experience. I am a member of numerous other motorcycle related organizations and when we get together, our conversations always turn to what we have changed on our motorcycles (and cars/trucks) lately. This is true for Harleys, Hondas, BMWs,

Triumphs, Fords, Chevy's, Dodge, you name it. There are 2 million registered vehicles on the road in Maryland. If you conservatively assume that 20% of the registered vehicles have modified exhausts, this bill could be affecting 400,000 vehicles or more. It is safe to say that at least 50% of motorcycles have modified exhausts. That number alone would represent 57,000 registered vehicles.

All on-road vehicles could be affected by this penalty provision. The stock configuration of vehicles does not produce the optimum performance or configuration for all people. Some people seek performance enhancements for additional power for towing, long distance cruising/riding, comfort, better fuel economy, and some for plain personalization of their vehicle.

The penalties attached to this bill will severely affect the aftermarket parts market and will have a detrimental effect on safety. The Mid-Shore Chapter of ABATE of Maryland, Inc. **DOES NOT SUPPORT** HB 1333 - Motor Vehicles - Modified Vehicle Exhaust System - Penalties. We urge the committee to consider an **UnFavorable** vote.

Thank you!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kenneth B. Eaton". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Kenneth B. Eaton, Director  
Mid-Shore Chapter  
ABATE of Maryland, Inc.

# **MSP Position Paper for HB1333.pdf**

Uploaded by: Thomas Williams

Position: INFO



**State of Maryland**  
**Department of State Police**  
Government Affairs Section  
Annapolis Office (410) 260-6100

**POSITION ON PROPOSED LEGISLATION**

**DATE:** February 22, 2022

**BILL NUMBER:** House Bill 1333 **Position:** Letter of Information

**BILL TITLE:** Motor Vehicles – Modified Vehicle Exhaust System - Penalties

**REVIEW AND ANALYSIS:**

This legislation seeks to mandate a tiered penalty for a person who modifies an exhaust system or other noise abatement device in such a way that the noise emitted by the motor vehicle exceeds the original manufactured standards. The legislation also requires a police officer, who stops a motor vehicle for this violation, to issue a citation and a Safety Equipment Repair Order (SERO).

Under current law, a police officer has the discretion to stop a motor vehicle for a traffic or equipment violation. The police officer has the ability to issue a warning, citation, or SERO based on the officer's observations. While an SERO can be issued for a modified exhaust system, an SERO cannot be issued for noise. Motor vehicles registered in another state are not subject to vehicle equipment laws of this state and cannot be issued an SERO.

HB 1333 mandates that a police officer shall issue both a citation and SERO to the driver of a vehicle stopped for a modified exhaust system. By requiring the officer to issue the citation, the legislation is requiring the officer to be able to appear in court and demonstrate automotive, model specific knowledge on the original manufacturers exhaust standards. Unfortunately, most police officers can tell you that an exhaust system is loud but very few will be able to demonstrate the knowledge required to support a conviction of this offense.

The legislative mandate puts the police officer in an untenable situation.