

2022 SEMA MD HB 1383 Support.pdf

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March 8, 2022

Maryland House of Delegates
Environment and Transportation Committee
Room 251
House Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Re: H.B. 1383, SEMA support

Dear Members of the Environment and Transportation Committee:

On behalf of the Specialty Equipment Market Association (SEMA), I am writing to express support for House Bill (HB) 1383 (Hornberger). If enacted into law, H.B. 1383 would allow surplus military vehicles to be registered in Maryland for limited use and help foster a rapidly growing market for the restoration of these vehicles. SEMA thanks Del. Kevin Hornberger for introducing this legislation

Representing the \$48 billion specialty automotive industry, SEMA is a trade association made up of approximately 7,500 mostly small businesses nationwide, including 74 in Maryland, that manufacture, market and sell specialty automotive aftermarket products, including appearance, performance, comfort, convenience and technology products for motor vehicles.

H.B. 1383 defines "Military Vehicle" in the Maryland Transportation Code as a motor vehicle manufactured for military use under the direction of the United States Armed Forces, or any other country, and was subsequently authorized for sale to civilians. By including military vehicle's in the transportation code, the bill allows for the registration of a military vehicle through the regular registration process if the vehicle meets applicable safety standards. Furthermore, military vehicles would be limited in use, such as for parades and exhibitions, car club events, and for maintenance and repair. They may not be used as daily drivers or for employment purposes.

In recent years, the restoration and modification of surplus military vehicles has rapidly grown in popularity amongst consumers, with several states enacting similar laws, including Virginia, Kansas, Nebraska, Tennessee, Nevada, and Texas. H.B. 1383 would benefit SEMA's member companies in Maryland by helping to create a new marketplace for their products and services.

Additionally, vehicles decommissioned by the U.S. government have captivated generations. Upon retirement from service, their ability to

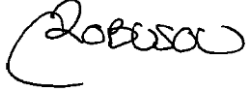
Proud of dedicated service to the industry since 1963

evoke national pride and serve as living history is undeniably powerful. For these reasons, SEMA requests your support for this legislation.

If you have any questions, or require additional information please feel free to contact me by phone at (202) 794-8279 or by e-mail at christianr@sema.org.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robinson", with a large, sweeping initial "R" that loops back under the rest of the name.

Christian Robinson
Director, State Government Affairs
Specialty Equipment Market Association