



March 30, 2022

Honorable Chair Kelley, Vice-Chair Feldman, and Members of the Senate Finance Committee,

My name is Joel Sheltroun and I am a former State Representative from Michigan.

I am writing in support of HB 1391.

I have been working in the Three Wheel transportation sector nationally since 2012, and I worked with Maryland delegates on HB 805 in 2016, creating Maryland's original Autocycle definition. I was working with Elio Motors at the time, but now I am working with Arcimoto, who is manufacturing ultra-efficient three-wheeled electric vehicles in Eugene, Oregon. Arcimoto's mission is to make the most efficient all-electric vehicles possible.

Arcimoto enthusiastically supports tax incentives to support the purchase of electric vehicles, especially two-and-three-wheeled ones. These tax credits are important for accelerating the transition to a low-carbon or no-carbon transportation system, and they can make a huge impact on purchases of our vehicles. We applaud and thank Representative Fraser-Hidalgo for his work on this bill and we urge you to advance it.

In addition to the tax credits for electric vehicle purchases, Arcimoto also enthusiastically supports an element in HB1391 that updates the definition of "autocycle."

When we passed the original autocycle definitions in Maryland and elsewhere around the country, electric vehicles were not very widespread yet, and we tried describe what made something drive more like a car than a motorcycle. The definitions varied around the country; and there is not a consistent definition of "autocycle." Many state definitions included steering wheels, but it turns out that steering wheels are not always the best steering option for ultra- efficient electric vehicles. Arcimoto vehicles use handlebars instead, to save weight and save space. And because there are handlebars, the best way to accelerate is with a hand throttle rather than foot pedal. That actually makes It safer than a steering wheel and pedals, because you can't take your hands off the steering mechanism and keep going.

The Tesla Model S is now being shipped with a steering "yoke" and General Motors just petitioned the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration for an exemption to car rules concerning "steering wheels." Other manufacturers are testing cars with joysticks. It does not make sense to tie an "autocycle" definition to steering wheels as something that "drives more like a car" when even cars may stop using them.

Please vote yes on HB 1391 as written and amended. This bill will help decarbonize transportation in Maryland and will also help make Arcimoto's American-made, ultra-efficient, three-wheeled electric vehicles available to the people of Maryland.

Respectfully Submitted,

Joel Sheltroun

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These are pictures of the Arcimoto Fun Utility Vehicle (FUV), which will qualify as an autocycle under HB 1391 as amended. All passengers sit on non-straddle seats, and wear double-harness seatbelts. The vehicle is incredibly stable, and does not tilt/lean at all.



Please see www.arcimoto.com for more information