

# Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee HB 1143- Ame

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Mar. 29, 2022

Senator Will Smith  
Miller Senate Office Building, 2 East Wing  
11 Bladen St., Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Sen. Smith and members of the Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee:

We are submitting this letter to express our strong support for HB 1143, including off-highway motorcycles in the definition of all-terrain vehicles when concerning their use on roads in Allegany County and Garrett County.

Founded in 1924, the AMA is the premier advocate for the motorcycling community. We represent the interests of millions of on- and off-highway motorcyclists, with nearly 4,800 members in Maryland. Our mission is to promote the motorcycle lifestyle and protect the future of motorcycling.

With the success of OHV usage at Wolf Den Run State Park and the Saint John's Rock ORV trail, it is important to allow for targeted on-road use in order to fully connect trail systems and allow motorized recreation enthusiasts to bring their economic benefits to the surrounding communities. Around the county, motorized recreation has been bolstering rural economies and reinventing tourism, allowing new businesses to flourish and diversifying regional attraction, all with a minimal economic investment. By utilizing existing land and trail networks, communities are seeing major returns on minor investments.

In addition to addressing targeted on-road usage, HB 1143 will add off-highway motorcycles to the definition of ATV's within Allegany and Garrett counties. Including off-highway motorcycles will both expand the ability of multiple user groups to experience Allegany and Garrett counties and also address some on-the-ground confusion surrounding which user groups could legally ride for short periods on roads.

We encourage a positive recommendation of HB 1143 and the continued growth of motorized recreation in Allegany and Garrett counties.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Peter Stockus'.

Peter W. Stockus

Government Relations Manager, Off-Highway