



March 3rd, 2023

Economic Matters Committee  
House Office Building  
Annapolis, Maryland 201401

**RE: HB 1187 - Favorable**

Dear Chair Wilson and members of the Economic Matters Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of House Bill 1187. By bringing Maryland's peer-to-peer car sharing law into closer alignment with the prevailing national model, this bill would further strengthen the state's burgeoning peer-to-peer car sharing marketplace, creating economic activity in Maryland communities, decreasing transportation costs, and helping to make a safe, convenient, and affordable mobility option more widely available across the state.

Active in Maryland since 2021, Getaround is a global and digital marketplace that connects car owners with people who need safe, convenient and affordable vehicles to live and work. It's free to join, there are no monthly fees, and it's completely contactless: our patented Getaround Connect technology allows Guests to book cars on-demand without standing in line or meeting in person to pick up keys. Getaround provides insurance during trips, and our platform enables Hosts – car owners who share their cars on Getaround's platform – to supplement their incomes.

When cars are affordable and accessible to everyone, communities benefit from the increased economic activity that comes with improved mobility. But for some, owning a car can be undesirable or cost-prohibitive, and many areas – particularly smaller cities and rural areas – are underserved by mass transit options and rental car companies. Car sharing with Getaround means more cash in the pockets of both Hosts and Guests, and more money staying in their communities.

Peer-to-peer car sharing also has significant community benefits. It can lead to fewer accidents, less traffic, more available parking, and increased use of public transit and other commuting options. Car sharing also helps the environment by accelerating the adoption of more energy-efficient vehicles, and by limiting emissions: studies show that when car sharing is available, household emissions can be reduced by up to 40%.

As a leading peer-to-peer car sharing platform, Getaround supports laws that protect consumers, provide certainty in terms of insurance obligations, and allow our Guests, Hosts, and their communities to safely and confidently enjoy the benefits of peer-to-peer car sharing. For these reasons, we strongly support the National Council of Insurance Legislators' (NCOIL) Peer-to-Peer Car Sharing Program Model Act – the product of compromise amongst peer-to-peer platforms, insurers, traditional car rental companies, and other stakeholders. By bringing Maryland's existing peer-to-peer car sharing law into closer alignment with NCOIL's model, HB 1187 would help more Marylanders experience the benefits of peer-to-peer car sharing within their communities.

We respectfully request that the committee advance HB 1187.

Sincerely,

Luke Entelis

Regional Head of Public Policy (Eastern and Midwestern U.S.)

Getaround, Inc.