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March 6, 2023

Maryland House of Delegates
Economic Matters Committee
Room 231
House Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Re: SEMA Support for HB 1193

Dear Members of the Economic Matters Committee:

On behalf of the Specialty Equipment Market Association (SEMA), I am writing to express support for House Bill (HB) 1193 (Hornberger), which seeks to protect Marylanders' rights to decide where and with what parts their vehicles are repaired and maintained.

New barriers to working on your own vehicle, independent automotive repair, and manufacturing replacement parts are emerging as vehicle technology evolves. While many aftermarket businesses and consumers rely on access to diagnostic data through the OBD-II port, they also need access to telematic data and information that is wirelessly transmitted directly to vehicle manufacturers. HB 1193 ensures that vehicle owners and repair businesses have access to this information, which is critical to maintaining a competitive repair marketplace.

SEMA is also committed to protecting Marylanders' right to accessorize their cars and trucks by ensuring consumers and aftermarket companies have access to the information needed to recalibrate vehicles with Advanced Driver Assistance Systems (ADAS) after they have been modified—for example, after a trailer hitch and suspension kit have been installed so that the vehicle owner can tow a boat, a trailer, or an ATV.

SEMA-member companies have experienced unprecedented demand for their products in recent years. Simultaneously, specialty automotive manufacturers face obstacles in producing parts that are interoperable with these emerging technologies. ADAS features such as automatic braking, forward collision warning, lane departure, and blind spot detection are critically important new technologies in helping to reduce traffic accidents and fatalities. However, lawmakers must ensure cybersecurity and ADAS policy are not used as pretexts to lock-out competition in the automotive repair and modification industry.

HB 1193 is a significant first step toward ensuring Marylanders have the freedom to repair their vehicles. For these reasons, SEMA respectfully asks for your support.

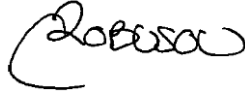
Representing the \$51 billion specialty automotive industry, SEMA is a trade association made up of approximately 7,000 mostly small businesses

Proud of dedicated service to the industry since 1963

nationwide, including 79 in Maryland, that manufacture, market and sell specialty automotive aftermarket products, including restoration, appearance, performance, comfort, convenience, and technology products for motor vehicles.

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.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Robinson". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial "R" and a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Christian Robinson
Senior Director, State Government Affairs & Grassroots
Specialty Equipment Market Association

