



Feb. 28, 2023

Delegate. Kumar Barve
House Office Building
6 Bladen Street, Room 251
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Del. Barve and members of the House Committee on Environment and Transportation:

We are submitting this letter to express our strong opposition to for HB 928.

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.

The AMA has worked with local grassroots groups such as B-360 in Baltimore to shine a light and support efforts to address dirt bike use on the streets. The intent of HB 928 gravely misses the mark and will do nothing to tackle illegal use of off-road motorcycles but will instead create onerous and unjust registration requirements. Currently All-Terrain Vehicles (ATV), Off-Road Motorcycles, and Snowmobiles purchased October 1, 2010 or later are required to be titled with the Motor Vehicle Administration and to utilize state land must purchase an annual sticker with the Department of Natural Resources.

By requiring county registration, this bill seeks to single out one user group as this requirement doesn't apply to passenger vehicles in the state. As an organization, the AMA firmly believes in a user-pay user-benefit model, and routinely supports registration efforts around the country that help fund trails and increase access, but this bill aims to punish law abiding riders with additional costs and no benefits.

These actions are discriminatory towards motorcycle riders, and community led efforts such as B-360 have already been shown to shift riders out of traffic and into safe spaces and educational opportunities. To create a safer community and riding opportunities, the AMA encourages you to work to build partnerships with existing grassroots organizations and not to craft punitive legislation which adds additional costs for off-road motorcycle ownership.

We urge an unfavorable report on HB 928.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Peter Stockus". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "P".

Peter W. Stockus

Government Relations Manager, Off-Highway