March 1, 2023

Judicial Proceedings Committee
The Honorable Senator William C. Smith, Jr.
2 East
Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

RE: SB 642 Vehicle Laws - Annual Vehicle Shows - Motor and Trailer Homes

Dear Chairman Smith and Members of the Judicial Proceedings Committee,

Recreational Vehicle shows (RV) are traditionally the best place to allow consumers to personally "kick all the tires" at one location. Currently, Maryland law restricts any outside MD licensed dealer (anything that needs a title and tag from the MVA) from displaying in the state. Unless the vendor owns and operates a business in the State of Maryland, they cannot display their product in our state which of course limits consumer choices.

Maryland, as well as the Town of Ocean City has invested millions in developing not only the Roland E Powell Convention Center but the travel and tourism industry. Amending the current law to allow for RV shows with out of state vendors would allow Worcester County to host these shows at the Roland E. Powell Convention Center.

Currently the closest RV dealerships, in relation to Ocean City, MD are located in Delaware. Six of the top ten closest dealerships are less than 45 miles away from Ocean City, MD. The only Maryland Eastern Shore RV Dealership is BOE RV and they are 74 miles away. The remaining Maryland RV dealerships are 90-140 miles away from Ocean City, MD. Why wouldn't we want to increase Maryland's influx of tax,tag and title fees.

Being able to host an RV Show in Ocean City, MD will eventually encourage those visiting the show to return to Worcester County. Ultimately it will increase the establishment of businesses servicing the RV industry and more employment.

I strongly and respectfully request that this committee provide Senate Bill 642 with a favorable report.

Sincerely,

Bob Rothermel
CEO T.E.A.M. Productions
3 Dorchester Street
Ocean City MD, 21842