

Auto Consumer Alliance

13900 Laurel Lakes Avenue, Suite 100 Laurel, MD 20707

Testimony to the House Economic Matters Committee HB 1273 – Vehicle Laws – Manufacturers and Dealers – Delivery of Vehicles Position: Favorable

The Honorable C.T. Wilson House Economic Matters Committee 251 Lowe House Office Building Annapolis, MD 21401 cc: Members, House Economic Matters Committee

Feb. 27, 2024

Honorable Chair Wilson and Members of the Committee:

I'm a consumer advocate and Executive Director of Consumer Auto, a nonprofit group that works to protect Maryland consumers and secure safety, transparency, and fair treatment for Maryland drivers and car buyers.

We support **HB 1273** because it acts to update Maryland's rules about the ways dealers can order vehicles from manufacturers – in ways that will enable dealers to order vehicles electronically and should make the process more efficient for both dealers and consumers.

Under current rules, dealers still order vehicles through written order forms – which in this age of instant electronic communication is a rather dated and slow process. This bill simply allows dealers to submit orders for cars and trucks that car manufacturers may not legally refuse to fulfill by electronic and other means as well.

This reform should make the distribution of vehicles happen more quickly and more efficiently – and work to help both dealers and consumers.

We support HB 1273 and ask for you to give it a FAVORABLE report.

Sincerely,

Franz Schneiderman Consumer Auto