

Submitted Electronically

Written Testimony of the Truck and Engine Manufacturers Association

By

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House Bill 693/Senate Bill 754

**Public Hearing of the House Economic Matters Committee
Maryland General Assembly**

February 11, 2025

Chair Wilson, Vice Chair Crosby and Members of the Economic Matters Committee,

The Truck and Engine Manufacturers Association (EMA) respectfully requests that MD H693 (and its companion S 754) be amended to exclude asset-based equipment lease transactions, and financing extended by captive finance companies (companies that finance acquisition of equipment that they or their affiliates manufacture.)

EMA represents the world's leading manufacturers of commercial vehicles as well as on- and off-road engines used in applications such as trucks; buses; construction and farm equipment; locomotives; marine vessels; lawn and garden equipment and stationary generators.

EMA understands and supports the underlying premise of H693 (and S754). However, the scope of the bill, as drafted, is overly broad and includes transactions which have been exempted from similar laws and legislation passed or proposed in a dozen other states during the 2023-2024 legislative session. As recognized in these other states, asset-based equipment lease transactions are already well regulated and the financing provided by equipment manufacturers, including EMA members, benefits both businesses and state and local governments who depend on agricultural and construction equipment. Additional regulation of these types of transactions would increase costs without providing any additional protections.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide our comments. If you have any questions or need additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me at phanz@emamail.org or at (312) 929-1979.