



March 30, 2026

The Honorable Kriselda Valderrama
Chair, House Economic Matters Committee
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

SB 345: Vehicle Manufacturers and Dealers – Dealer Associations – Administrative Hearings
Position: FWA

Dear Chair Valderrama:

The Alliance for Automotive Innovation¹ (Auto Innovators) appreciates the opportunity to provide the following comments on SB 345 and to request a Favorable with Amendments Report. While the Auto Innovators previously opposed this legislation we have reached an agreement with the MD Dealers Association on the following language.

On page 2, after line 21, insert –

(C) A DEALER ASSOCIATION MAY REQUEST A HEARING UNDER SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS SECTION ONLY IF:

(1) AT LEAST ONE MEMBER OF THE DEALER ASSOCIATION HAS STANDING TO REQUEST A HEARING INDIVIDUALLY UNDER THIS SECTION;

(2) THE INTERESTS THAT THE DEALER ASSOCIATION SEEKS TO PROTECT ARE GERMANE TO ITS PURPOSE; AND

(3) NEITHER THE CLAIM ASSERTED NOR THE RELIEF REQUESTED REQUIRES THE PARTICIPATION OF EACH OF THE INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS OF THE ASSOCIATION.

This language is an attempt to align the bill with federal case law. Therefore, we respectfully request a favorable with amendment report on SB 345 and HB 1214.

Thank you for your consideration of our position. For more information, please contact our local representative, Bill Kress, at (410) 375-8548.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Josh Fisher". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Josh Fisher
Senior Director
Alliance for Automotive Innovation