



HEARING DATE: February 19, 2026

BILL NO/TITLE: HB777: Motor Vehicles - Required Equipment - Rear Occupant Alert Systems (Hot Cars Act)

COMMITTEE: House Environment & Transportation

LETTER OF INFORMATION

As originally drafted, HB777 would prohibit the sale of certain new motor vehicles unless they are equipped with a rear occupant alert system. Included in the legislation are Class E trucks, which include pickup trucks, but also include dump trucks, tow trucks, and box trucks that are designed to carry freight, not passengers. To clarify the intent of this legislation the sponsor is offering an amendment that the requirements in the bill only apply to vehicles weighing 10,000 lbs. or less. The definition of a commercial motor vehicle in Maryland and Federal law is one that it is over 10,000 lbs. gross vehicle weight rating.

MMTA appreciates this clarifying amendment to avoid confusion on the applicability of the legislation. This satisfies the concerns raised by our organization.

About Maryland Motor Truck Association: Maryland Motor Truck Association is a non-profit trade association that has represented the trucking industry since 1935. In service to its 1,000 members, MMTA is committed to support, advocate and educate for a safe, efficient and profitable trucking industry in Maryland.

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