



February 13, 2024

Kansas House of Representatives
House Committee on Federal and State Affairs
Kansas State Capitol
300 SW 10th St.
Topeka, KS 66612

Re: SEMA Support for HB 2783

Dear members of the Committee on Federal and State Affairs,

I am writing to express the strong support of the Specialty Equipment Market Association (SEMA) for HB 2783, which prohibits state agencies, cities, and counties from regulating or restricting the use or sale of motor vehicles based on their energy source. We believe that consumer choice and innovation are the cornerstones of a thriving automotive industry and that HB 2783 aligns perfectly with these principles.

SEMA represents over 7,000 American businesses, including 64 in Kansas, that manufacture and sell parts and accessories that improve motor vehicle performance, function, and style. While 95% of our member companies are small businesses, our industry's impact is massive, employing over 1.3 million Americans and contributing \$337 billion annually to the U.S. economy.

Here in Kansas, the industry contributes \$3.8 billion to the state's economy, employs over 16,000 individuals, generates over \$1 billion in wages and benefits, and \$462 million in taxes.

Consumer Choice and Freedom:

This bill empowers consumers to make informed decisions about the vehicles they purchase and operate, promoting a healthy and competitive marketplace. Removing unnecessary restrictions based on energy source allows individuals to choose the vehicle that best fits their needs and preferences, whether it be a traditional gasoline-powered car, a fuel-efficient hybrid, a powerful electric vehicle, or any other option.

Innovation and Progress:

This bill fosters innovation across all fuel sources by creating a level playing field. Manufacturers will be encouraged to invest in research and development of new technologies, ultimately leading to a wider range of efficient and environmentally friendly options for consumers. This is crucial for the continued progress of the automotive industry and its ability to meet the evolving needs of society.

Chairman of the Board
* Kyle Fickler

Chair-Elect
* Melanie White

**Immediate Past Chairman
& Secretary**
* James Lawrence

Treasurer
* Tim McCarthy

Board of Directors
Rich Butler
Lindsay Hubley
Norris Marshall
Larry Montante
Kim Pendergast
Brian Reese
Kathryn Reinhardt
Marcus Umlauff
Ted Wentz III
Steve Whipple

President and CEO
Mike Spagnola

General Counsel
David P. Goch

* Executive Committee

1575 S. Valley Vista Dr.
Diamond Bar, CA 91765-3914
909-610-2030

E-mail: sema@sema.org
Website: www.sema.org

Economic Growth and Job Creation:

The automotive aftermarket industry employs thousands of Kansans. By protecting a market free from unfair restrictions on specific vehicle types, HB 2783 ensures a healthy and competitive environment for all aftermarket products and services, safeguarding jobs and investments.

Addressing Environmental Concerns:

We understand concerns surrounding the potential environmental impact of this bill. However, it's important to remember that it doesn't prevent government entities from taking other measures to address these concerns, such as investing in alternative fuel infrastructure or offering incentives for clean vehicle purchases. Ultimately, market forces and consumer preferences will continue to drive the adoption of more efficient and environmentally friendly vehicles.

Conclusion:

HB 2783 promotes consumer choice, fosters innovation, and protects jobs. We urge the Committee to support this important legislation and allow the industry to continue delivering the freedom and choice that Kansan consumers deserve.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Colby Martin". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right.

Colby Martin
Director of State Government Affairs
Specialty Equipment Market Association