

Motor & Equipment Manufacturers Association

1030 15th Street, NW Suite 500 East Washington, DC 20005
Tel 202.393.6362 Fax 202.737.3742 E-mail info@mema.org



May 8, 2019

The Honorable Marcus C. Evans, Jr.
Chairman
House Labor and Commerce Committee
Illinois General Assembly
Room 114 Capitol Building
Springfield, IL

RE: Opposition to S.B. 2104

Dear Chairman Evans:

On behalf of the more than 1,000 company members of the Motor & Equipment Manufacturers Association (MEMA), I am writing to express opposition to with S.B. 2104, which will be read today before the House Labor and Commerce Committee. MEMA represents vehicle suppliers that manufacture and remanufacture components and systems for use in passenger cars and heavy trucks, providing original equipment (OE) to new vehicles as well as aftermarket parts to service, maintain and repair more than 281 million vehicles on the road today. Suppliers are the largest employers of manufacturing jobs in the U.S., directly employing over 871,831 Americans with a total employment impact of 4.2 million jobs. More than 30,000 of those jobs are in the state of Illinois.

The language in S.B. 2104 discourages the use of aftermarket replacement parts for motor vehicles. If this bill passes, consumers will be faced with higher repair costs and fewer repair choices, and manufacturing jobs would suffer due to less demand for aftermarket products. The U.S. automotive light vehicle aftermarket is a \$305 billion industry that includes manufacturing, remanufacturing, distribution, retailing, and installation of all vehicle parts, chemicals, tools, equipment, and accessories. Most automotive aftermarket maintenance and repair work takes place in independent repair shops or at vehicle manufacturers' dealerships. Independent repair shops comprise approximately 70 percent of the service bay capacity and provide a convenient and affordable solution for vehicle service.

By requiring written consent for the use of non-original equipment aftermarket crash parts, this legislation discourages the use of quality aftermarket parts. This is not only harmful to the industry and consumers but ignores the value and benefit of aftermarket motor vehicle components. Additionally, this legislation in its current form would create confusion for automobile owners, as the bill does not clearly define OEM repair procedures. MEMA respectfully requests that the Committee oppose passage of the legislation and that you preserve consumers' choice in recognition of the high-quality, cost-effective options for motor vehicles.

We appreciate the opportunity to provide comments; please contact Catherine Boland at (202)-312-9241 or cboland@mema.org if you have any questions or would like additional information. Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ann Wilson". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Ann Wilson
Senior Vice President, Government Affairs

