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March 5, 2020

Kansas Senate
Senate Committee on Transportation
Kansas State Capitol, Room 546-S
300 SW 10th Street
Topeka, Kansas 66612

Re: Support for H.B. 2420

Dear Members of the Senate Committee on Transportation:

On behalf of the Specialty Equipment Market Association (SEMA), I am writing to request your support for House Bill (H.B.) 2420, which would allow for the registration and road use of military surplus vehicles.

Representing the \$45 billion specialty automotive industry, SEMA is a trade association made up of approximately 7,500 mostly small businesses nationwide, including 68 in Kansas, that manufacture, rebuild, distribute, and retail parts and accessories for motor vehicles. The products made by our companies include performance, functional, restoration, and styling enhancement products for use on passenger cars, trucks, and special interest older vehicles.

H.B. 2420 allows for the registration and road use of military surplus vehicles, defined as a vehicle less than 35 years old that were manufactured for the use in the U.S. military forces and subsequently authorized for sale to civilians. The term does not include fully tracked vehicles. Such vehicles would also be subject to inspection by highway patrol prior to registration, which is in line with current policy for all assembled, reconstructed and restored vehicles.

In recent years, the restoration and modification of surplus military vehicles has grown in popularity amongst consumers, with several states enacting similar laws. H.B. 2420 would benefit SEMA's member companies in Kansas by helping to create a new marketplace for their products and services. Additionally, vehicles decommissioned by the U.S. government have captivated generations. Upon retirement from service, their ability to evoke national pride and serve as living history is undeniably powerful. For these reasons, SEMA requests your support for this legislation.

If you have any questions, or require additional information please feel free to contact me by phone at (202) 794-8279 or by e-mail at christianr@sema.org.

Proud of dedicated service to the industry since 1963

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robinson". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "R" and a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Christian Robinson
Director, State Government Affairs
Specialty Equipment Market Association