

October 27, 2011

H.R. 3274: The Low Volume Motor Vehicle Manufacturers Act of 2011

- Congressman John Campbell (R-CA) has introduced H.R. 3274, “The Low Volume Motor Vehicle Manufacturers Act of 2011,” bipartisan legislation directing the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to enable low volume car manufacturers to provide a range of specialty vehicles for customers nationwide.
- Original Co-sponsors include Rep. John Barrow (D-GA), Rep. Bill Posey (R-FL), Rep. Don Manzullo (R-IL), Rep. Marsha Blackburn (R-TN), and Rep. Duncan Hunter (R-CA).
- Vehicles produced by low volume manufacturers include replica street rods, customs and sports cars. They are primarily used in exhibitions, parades and occasional transportation.
- Vehicles included in this new program would meet current emissions standards. The legislation would permit companies to install EPA-certified clean engines. The vehicles could also incorporate alternative energy technology, encouraging green companies to build low-emission cars.
- The U.S. does not have a process for certifying automobiles produced in limited numbers. The system is only designed to regulate companies that mass-produce millions of vehicles and the American consumer is unnecessarily restricted to a “one-size-fits-all” marketplace.
- H.R. 3274 creates an alternative regulatory program for American companies producing 1,000 or fewer vehicles a year. This approach acknowledges the unique circumstances associated with limited production custom vehicles.

The law will have a positive impact on the American economy by...

- Expanding America’s depleted manufacturing base;
- Creating potentially thousands of new skilled-labor jobs in the auto industry;
- Generating millions in revenue for American companies, and increasing tax revenues for state and local jurisdictions;
- Providing a reasonable regulatory approach;
- Offering new, unique, and innovative products to the American consumer which can also be exported to foreign markets;
- Producing cars that satisfy clean air standards; and
- Spurring developments in alternative-fuel vehicles and green technology.

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