



February 11, 2026

Senator John Barrasso
Chairman
Subcommittee on Public Lands, Forests,
and Mining
Committee on Energy and Natural
Resources
United States Senate
304 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Senator Catherine Cortez Masto
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Public Lands, Forests,
and Mining
Committee on Energy and Natural
Resources
United States Senate
304 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

RE: SEMA & ORBA Letter of Support for S. 2968, the Outdoor Americans with Disabilities Act

Dear Chairman Barrasso and Ranking Member Cortez Masto,

On behalf of the Specialty Equipment Market Association's (SEMA) members, we thank the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee's Public Lands, Forests, and Mining Subcommittee for holding a hearing on S. 2968, the "Outdoor Americans with Disabilities Act." SEMA supports this important bill, which is critical to ensuring that all Americans, including the millions of men and women who are disabled, can enjoy the benefits of outdoor recreation.

The Specialty Equipment Market Association (SEMA) is a non-profit trade association that represents over 7,000 mostly small businesses around the country that drive innovation in the specialty automotive aftermarket industry. SEMA is proud to represent manufacturers, distributors, retailers, and installers of the parts and accessories that are used to customize and modify motor vehicles, including those used off-road.

Within SEMA, The Off-Road Business Association (ORBA), a non-profit business association, represents businesses and professionals in the off-road industry. ORBA is a

national leader in land use policy and trail advocacy, working to protect motorized access and shape the future of off-highway recreation through education, legislation, and collaboration. ORBA unites manufacturers, retailers, clubs, e-commerce platforms, race organizers, and advocacy groups from across the country with the mission to preserve the rights of off-road users while promoting environmental conservation and responsible recreation.

SEMA & ORBA members manufacture products that modify and customize trucks, SUVs, and offroad vehicles and make it easier for Americans to enjoy the outdoors, including bigger wheels and tires, suspension upgrades, lift kits, winches, lighting products, and more. These specialty products enhance everything from SUVs, trucks, four-wheelers, ATVs, to other off-highway vehicles (OHVs) to improve performance, style, safety, and to enjoy the great outdoors.

The Outdoor Americans with Disabilities Act would expand motorized trail access to ensure individuals with disabilities can access federal and state-owned public lands that have been previously inaccessible. SEMA and ORBA support this landmark bill, which ensures that our nation's public lands and the natural treasures are open to all Americans. For far too long, federal land management policies have reduced motorized recreational access to public lands at the expense of the disabled and large segments of the U.S. population who are not physically able to enjoy them. Chairman Lee's bill is a welcome policy shift in the name of expanding access on government lands for all Americans.

At present, large portions of land managed by the U.S. Department of the Interior and the U.S. Forest Service restrict motorized access, which creates a barrier that prevents individuals with disabilities from accessing and recreating on these public lands.

Chairman Lee's bill defines "disability-accessible land" as public land on which at least 2.5 miles of authorized roads accessible to motorized or off-road vehicles exist for each square mile. The bill requires the Interior Department and the Forest Service to update travel management plans to ensure that each square mile of public land provides the necessary roads to ensure the land is accessible. It also requires land managers to coordinate with state, county, local, and tribal governments to identify which roads provide the best opportunities for recreation and to give local stakeholders a voice before any road is closed. Additionally, the bill prevents roads from being closed if doing so would cause an area to fall short of accessibility requirements, except in cases of emergency or significant safety threats, and requires road closures to be paired with the designation of alternative routes.

Thank you to the Subcommittee on Public Lands, Forests, and Mining for your consideration of SEMA and ORBA's comments in support of the Outdoor Americans with Disabilities Act. We welcome the opportunity to work with you and your staff on this important legislation, which is critical to providing reasonable access to public lands for the disabled community and all Americans.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'KB' with a stylized flourish.

Karen Bailey-Chapman

Senior Vice President - Public and Government Affairs

Specialty Equipment Market Association (SEMA) & Off-Road Business Association (ORBA)

CC: Chairman Mike Lee
Ranking Member Martin Heinrich
Sen. James E. Risch
Sen. Steve Daines
Sen. Tom Cotton
Sen. Jim Justice
Sen. Cindy Hyde-Smith
Sen. Lisa Murkowski
Sen. Ron Wyden
Sen. Mazie Hirono
Sen. Angus S. King, Jr.
Sen. John W. Hickenlooper
Sen. Alex Padilla