



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 3051		DATE: 2/2/2026	
COMMITTEE: Special Committee on Intergovernmental Affairs			
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: GREGORY C. MITCHELL		PHONE NUMBER: 573-635-7166	
REPRESENTING: BRYDON, SWEARENGEN & ENGLAND, P.C., MADA-MO AUTO DEALERS ASSOCIATION		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: 312 E. CAPITAL AVE.			
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65203
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 2/2/2026 12:00 AM	
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WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: TRISH VINCENT		PHONE NUMBER: 573-751-2992	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE		TITLE: DIRECTOR	
ADDRESS: TRUMAN BLDG., ROOM 670			
CITY: JC		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65101
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 2/2/2026 12:00 AM	
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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: ARNIE C. DIENOFF-STATE PUBLIC ADVOCATE		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: In-Person	SUBMIT DATE: 2/2/2026 11:59 PM
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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: ARNIE C. DIENOFF-STATE PUBLIC ADVOCATE		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: In-Person	SUBMIT DATE: 2/2/2026 11:55 PM

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**I am Opposed to Creating more Government and more Bureaucracy with additional State Expenditures.
This Task is being done by the State Department of Revenue.**



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WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: BYRON KEELIN		PHONE NUMBER: 314-402-0655	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: FREEDOM PRINCIPLE		TITLE: PRESIDENT	
ADDRESS: PO BOX 2			
CITY: BALLWIN		STATE: MO	ZIP: 63022
EMAIL: freedomprinciplemo@protonmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/1/2026 5:29 PM	

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The Freedom Principle is opposed to this bill. This legislation, which proposes to create a new Missouri Motor Vehicle Commission and transfer regulatory and enforcement responsibilities from the Department of Revenue, represents an unnecessary and duplicative expansion of state government.

Establishing a nine-member commission, an executive director, support staff, and additional administrative infrastructure will inevitably lead to increased government spending.

Instead of adding this costly layer of government, efforts should be directed at reforming and improving the existing processes within the Department of Revenue. If there are true deficiencies with how the Department regulates motor vehicle dealers and manufacturers, the legislature has the authority and responsibility to investigate and enact necessary reforms.

Creating a new commission does not guarantee better results or stronger enforcement; it only results in additional administrative overhead, operational redundancy, and greater confusion about responsibilities. Ultimately, House Bill 3051 exemplifies fiscal irresponsibility by increasing bureaucracy and government spending without any clear benefit to Missouri citizens. The right approach is to make government work better, not make it bigger, and I respectfully urge a 'no' vote on this bill.



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WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: DOUG GALLOWAY		PHONE NUMBER: 573-230-3112	
REPRESENTING: FORD MOTOR COMPANY		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: 227 JEFFERSON			
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65101
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 2/2/2026 12:00 AM	
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WITNESS NAME		
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:		
WITNESS NAME: JEWELL PATEK		PHONE NUMBER: 573-690-3573
REPRESENTING: ALLIANCE FOR AUTOMOTIVE INNOVATION		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO
		ZIP: 65102
EMAIL: jewell@patekandassociates.com	ATTENDANCE: In-Person	SUBMIT DATE: 2/2/2026 4:00 PM
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Opposed to bill.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: SARAH BERRY		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:	STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/1/2026 9:38 AM
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I submit this testimony in strong opposition to HB 3051.

This bill does not simply reorganize motor-vehicle licensing. It removes authority from an accountable state agency, transfers it to a politically appointed commission dominated by industry insiders, and then shields that commission from meaningful civil liability.

That combination should alarm anyone who values transparency, consumer protection, or good government.

1. HB 3051 strips authority from the Department of Revenue and replaces it with an insulated commission

HB 3051 executes a Type III transfer removing core licensing, compliance, and enforcement authority from the Department of Revenue and placing it in a newly created Missouri Motor Vehicle Commission.

The Department of Revenue is:
 A constitutionally accountable executive agency
 Subject to audits, open-records obligations, and direct public scrutiny

The proposed commission is:
 Politically appointed
 Structurally insulated
 Functionally independent of the Director of Revenue

This is not modernization.

This is authority laundering.

2. The commission is structurally captured by the industry it regulates

Under HB 3051, 8 of 9 commissioners must be licensed dealers:
 5 franchised new motor vehicle dealers
 2 used motor vehicle dealers
 1 powersport dealer

Only 1 public member, with no pecuniary interest

That is not balance.

That is regulated parties regulating themselves.

This bill hard-codes regulatory capture into statute.

3. The bill grants sweeping immunity from civil liability

Section 301.552(8) provides civil immunity to:

“All officials, employees, and individuals providing information or participating in commission operations,”

so long as actions are taken in “good faith.”

This immunity:

Applies broadly

Lacks meaningful definition

Shields decision-makers even when harm results

When you combine:

Industry-dominated governance

Punitive fine authority

Arbitration power

Civil immunity

You create a system where consumers bear the risk and insiders bear none.

4. HB 3051 expands punitive authority without judicial safeguards

The commission is granted authority to:

Mitigate complaints

Hold hearings

Arbitrate disputes

Assess punitive fines and damages

These are quasi-judicial powers, yet:

Commissioners are not judges

The body is not independent

The membership is not neutral

This is enforcement without separation, process without impartiality, and punishment without adequate checks.

5. Licensing thresholds quietly tighten market access

The bill raises multiple sales thresholds (from six to eight units annually) across:

Boat dealers

Trailer dealers

Motor vehicle dealers

These changes:

Disproportionately harm small and rural operators

Favor large, established dealerships

Reduce competition while appearing “technical”

This is not consumer protection — it is market consolidation by statute.

6. This bill reduces transparency while increasing power

Although the bill requires complaint logs, it simultaneously:

Removes day-to-day oversight from a public agency

Concentrates discretion in a small, appointed body

Limits accountability through immunity provisions

That is a net loss for public transparency, not a gain.

HB 3051:

Centralizes power

Institutionalizes regulatory capture

Shields decision-makers from liability

Weakens executive oversight

Raises barriers for smaller businesses

And reduces public accountability

Missouri does not need another insulated commission with industry dominance and immunity baked into law.

This bill shifts power away from the public and toward protected insiders.

For these reasons, I respectfully urge the committee to OPPOSE HB 3051.

Footnotes: [1] Missouri Revised Statutes §§ 301.550–301.580 (current law)

Under existing law, the Missouri Department of Revenue is responsible for licensing and oversight of motor vehicle dealers, manufacturers, and related entities, subject to executive oversight, audit authority, and Sunshine Law compliance.

[2] HB 3051, § 301.552.2 (103rd General Assembly)

HB 3051 transfers all powers and duties of the Department of Revenue under §§ 301.550–301.580 to the newly created Missouri Motor Vehicle Commission via a Type III transfer, removing supervisory authority from the Director of Revenue.

[3] Omnibus State Reorganization Act of 1974, Type III Transfer

A Type III transfer relocates powers, duties, and functions to a new entity while eliminating direct control by the original department head, thereby reducing executive accountability.

[4] HB 3051, § 301.552.3

The composition of the Missouri Motor Vehicle Commission requires 8 of 9 members to be licensed dealers, with only one public member lacking a pecuniary interest, creating a statutory majority of regulated parties overseeing their own industry.

[5] U.S. Supreme Court, North Carolina State Board of Dental Examiners v. FTC, 574 U.S. 494 (2015)

The Court held that state regulatory boards controlled by active market participants pose a serious risk of self-dealing and anticompetitive conduct absent active state supervision.

[6] HB 3051, § 301.552.8

The bill grants civil immunity to all officials, employees, and participants in commission operations for actions taken in “good faith,” without defining standards or providing independent review mechanisms.

[7] Missouri Constitution, Article II, § 1 (Separation of Powers)

The Missouri Constitution separates executive, legislative, and judicial powers; consolidation of licensing, enforcement, adjudication, and punitive authority within an industry-dominated commission raises separation-of-powers and due-process concerns.

[8] HB 3051, §§ 301.552 & 301.553

The commission is granted authority to hold hearings, arbitrate disputes, and assess punitive fines and damages, exercising quasi-judicial powers without judicial independence or traditional procedural safeguards.

[9] HB 3051, § 301.550 (multiple subsections)

The bill raises minimum annual sales thresholds (from six to eight units) for several dealer categories, increasing barriers to entry for small and rural operators and favoring large, established dealerships.

[10] Missouri Sunshine Law, Chapter 610, RSMo

While the Department of Revenue is a long-standing subject of Sunshine Law enforcement and audit review, the transfer of authority to an appointed commission reduces routine public oversight and concentrates discretion in a smaller, insulated body.



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WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: SUSAN HENDERSON MOORE		PHONE NUMBER: 573-268-6924	
REPRESENTING: GENERAL MOTORS		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: 630 BOLIVAR ST.			
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65101
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 2/2/2026 12:00 AM	
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WITNESS NAME		
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:		
WITNESS NAME: BECKY LOHMANN		PHONE NUMBER: 573-424-1514
REPRESENTING: TESLA		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY: COLUMBIA		STATE: MO
		ZIP: 65203
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 2/2/2026 12:00 AM
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