

September 12, 2017

**Representative Richard Hudson
429 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515**

Dear Congressman Hudson,

After a life time of hard work working for others, we begin a new journey of the American Dream to start our own business. The foundation of most small manufacturing business is in a word: innovation. U.S. patents always name an individual, for even these United States recognize that individuals invent, not companies or governments. Innovation is always the thinking outside of the box that has fostered most of America's success, and small businesses run by individuals, not big business, have led the way.

It was an innovative idea to take and modify a fifty year old automotive model with modern, environmental-friendly drivetrains and offer them to customers. With no employees, we built the first prototype with surprising success. Since then, we have gone nowhere but up with several moves to accommodate growth and, of course, add new employees. Not a day goes by that we are not grateful to our families, friends, amazing employees, and to live in a country founded by individuals who knew and understood these dreams. They took extra care penning the Constitution of these United States, sworn to protect such rights free from government interference.

A day at our facility would be an education for anyone in problem solving, and those problems get solved by our employees each and every day. North Carolina is blessed by talented young women and men who innovate. The most gratifying part of my job is watching the process of invention. Whether it be mechanical, electrical, even chemical, these young minds simply overcome it.

It is heart wrenching to think this all may come to an end. It is my understanding that the EPA could adopt action that restricts any alteration to any vehicles...period. Such measures would create a ripple effect on the very industry responsible for the Industrial Revolution of our country. Put aside the loss of some 15,000,000 positions in the United States alone and think of that very young student in grammar school who picks up a Hot Rod magazine in the library and sparks their interest. Is she or he that inventive mind that could change our world? The Specialty Equipment Manufacturers Association is scheduled to hit \$680,000,000,000 by the year 2024.

I was asked by a young man this weekend at a car show attended by an estimated crowd of 10,000 people what his future should be to get into the automotive aftermarket. I told him that the future is bright if the government does not crush us with blind overreach.

We pray for our government leaders, hopeful that they will act with knowledge and clarity.

Most respectfully,

Jon Marshall

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Innovation Performance Technologies Inc.