



WMDA/CAR Service Station
and Automotive Repair Association

January 29, 2020

Chairman: Guy Guzzone
Members of Senate Budget & Taxation Committee

RE: SB 3

Position: In opposition

A \$2.00 tax increase per pack of cigarettes would slow sales to record lows and severely affect the convenience store retailers. The customers would drive into Virginia, West Virginia and Delaware to buy their tobacco and buy their gas at the same time.

5 cartons legally bought in Virginia would turn in to contraband when sold in Maryland. Tax in Maryland on 5 cartons \$200.00 dollars – tax in VA. \$15.00 and say they make 4 trips a day. These people do not age verify, and Maryland makes nothing in tax revenue.

This bill while well meaning has unintended consequences for under the age of 21, contraband sales and criminal activity will be hard to contain. Maryland retailer and their many thousand employees will be hurt.

Please Give SB 3 an Unfavorable Report

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