



Mid-Atlantic Petroleum Distributors Association
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To: Senate Finance Committee
From: Ellen Valentino
Date: March 17, 2020
Re: HB 3 Flavored Tobacco Products – Prohibition

Unfortunately, a hearing is scheduled on this very controversial bill and our public testimony and member involvement is greatly limited.

To provide you with an up to the minute snapshot of the convenience store economy: in store sales are down 35% as of yesterday AM. These are important businesses and our employees are just as important to us – as any corporate establishment.

This bill will ban the sale of legal products – and will harm our businesses.

We do believe on the other side of this historic happening – Maryland’s economy, the national economy, the way consumers shop, and business owners go-to “market” will be forever changed.

ADDITIONALLY – NOW IS NOT THE TIME TO RAISE MILLIONS OF DOLLARS IN NEW TAXES. THE TOBACCO TAX INCREASE AND INTERNET ADVERTISING TAX ARE PENDING ON THE SENATE FLOOR (SB 2 AND HB 732) – IF YOU PLAN TO SUPPORT – I URGE RECONSIDERATION.

Feeding and fueling the economy through gas, coffee, food, heating oil and propane.

MAPDA is an association of convenience stores and energy distributors in Maryland, Delaware & the District of Columbia.