



WMDA/CAR Service Station and Automotive Repair Association

February 9, 2021

Chairman: Delores G. Kelley
Members of Senate Finance Committee

RE: SB 486

Position: Unfavorable

SB486 puts owners of essential businesses in a difficult position during a declared emergency. The independent small businesses that I represent lost up to 75% of their business when COVID 19 was declared an emergency. Currently most are still off 25%, while staying open normal hours and with a good portion being 24/7.

Adding labor costs, financial assistance for healthcare, health and bereavement leave costs to businesses that have already been struggling to stay open to serve their customers challenges judgement. The first three or four months of this global pandemic our members were (some still are) operating at a loss.

WMDA/Car members operate service stations, convenience stores and repair facilities. When vehicles are staying in parking places, they do not need repair or fuel. Our locations were there for essential workers and now this bill wants them to pay a penalty for staying open.

Large grocery chains, warehouse stores and of course the amazons of the world are in a different position. This is another one size fits all bill that is a business killer for my members.

Please give SB 486 an unfavorable report

WMDA/CAR is a trade association that has represented service stations, convenience stores and independent repair shops since 1937. Any questions can be addressed to Kirk McCauley, 301-775-0221 or kmccauley@wmda.net