



## WMDA/CAR Service Station and Automotive Repair Association

Chair: Paul G. Pinsky  
Members of Senate Education, Health and Environmental Affairs Committee

Re SB 135  
Position: In Opposition

July 1, 2022, gas prices will increase because of CPI and SUIT tax increase tied to retail price from previous 12 months, combined, that should be a whopper. To add a Fossil fuel fee in the form of \$10 dollars per metric ton Equivalent of CO2 would put a hardship on consumer and businesses. Another bill to drive up the cost of living in Maryland.

I know there will be some reimbursement, but when consumer pulls up to a pump, they will not have a state credit card in hand. Consumers that commute will be especially hit hard. Those that can, will shop across our borders for less expensive fuel and other consumer products that would normally be bought in our convenience stores and stations. To residents that live week to week this will be especially hard.

Service stations and convenience stores in Maryland which already has a higher gas tax to surrounding states will suffer as will tax collection for gas and store products. This could very well be the straw that broke the camel back for locations close to state borders.

I know the bill says fees cannot be passed along as a direct cost. Direct or indirect, costs will end up at the pump, retailer will only be passing along what come from up stream.

House holds will split up 80% of 50% from fees, businesses will split up 20% of that 50% but the bill fails to say what businesses will qualify or benefit. Surely not reassuring to small business.

This bill will drive consumer prices for all products up and add to the struggles of the last 2 years.

Please give SB135 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](mailto:kmccauley@wmda.net)