



Mid-Atlantic Petroleum Distributors Association
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TO: Senate Finance Committee

FROM: Mid-Atlantic Petroleum Distributors Association

DATE: February 29, 2024

RE: **SENATE BILL 651** – Business Regulation – Sale of Motor Fuel – Pricing Signage

On behalf of Maryland's convenience stores and energy distributors, MAPDA respectfully requests a favorable committee report with the following amendment on Senate Bill 651.

This legislation would make a variety of changes to the state's law regulating pricing signage at retail service stations including the ability for a station operator to post the credit and debit price (if higher than the cash price) *or* the credit and debit price and the cash price for a whole measurement of gasoline.

MAPDA urges the committee to adopt an amendment preempting local jurisdictions from enacting ordinances regulating pricing signage.

Our members own and operate stations throughout the state and in multiple jurisdictions. The signs required by state law are costly to construct and maintain. It makes sense to have a single standard across the entire state as opposed to 23 counties and 157 municipalities having the option to enact their own separate standard. The latter would only lead to increased costs for operators and confusion for drivers.

For these reasons, MAPDA respectfully requests a favorable committee report on SB651 with the amendment above.

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.