

# MARYLAND RETAILERS ASSOCIATION

*The Voice of Retailing in Maryland*



## **SB66 Income Tax – Credit for Small Businesses – State Minimum Wage Increase**

**Senate Budget and Taxation Committee**

**January 15, 2020**

### **Position: SUPPORT**

**Background:** This legislation would create a refundable tax credit against State income taxes for small businesses that employ 50 or fewer employees, and that pay qualified employees the state minimum wage.

**Comments:** From ever increasing health care costs, to paid sick leave, to the increase in the minimum wage, small businesses in Maryland have undergone numerous increases in operating costs with little time for adjustment. The tax credit proposed by SB66 would provide businesses with relief as they continue implementing changes to their operating structures at the request of the legislature. Retail businesses are the backbone of Maryland's economy, and in order to continue providing goods, services and much needed tax revenue – let alone jobs – to their communities, small businesses need support to adjust to changes in business regulations. This tax credit would enable them to do just that, helping to stabilize small businesses as various increases and mandates are implemented.

We urge a favorable vote on SB66. Thank you for your time and consideration.



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