



## WMDA/CAR Service Station and Automotive Repair Association

February 8, 2022

Chairperson: Delores G. Kelley

Members of Senate Finance Committee RE: SB322 Gas Price Gouging Act

Position: In opposition

Retail sellers of motor fuel are required to post their lowest price for regular gasoline. Credit card fees are high, and some dealers offer a less expensive price for gas by providing a cash price or combining with car wash. Consumers have a choice.

More stations have gone to a single price or a dual price sign with diesel. These are digital signs and can be changed from a laptop or a POS terminal. They are much safer eliminating tall ladders or aluminum poles near power lines but on the downside they are expensive.

No gasoline retailer is out to deceive the public, gasoline sales are not a onetime purchase. Repeat business and regular customers are gasoline dealers' bread and butter. The numbers below will tell the story

Maryland Gasoline retailers sold 2,371,065,994. gallons of gasoline in \*FY2021. That is two billion, three hundred and seventy one million gallons .Using a very liberal sixteen (16) gallon per transaction that equals 148,191,624 individual retail transactions. This is 148 million plus transactions at retail pumps with only twenty-six complaints(26) about the price not matching the street sign. There were twenty complaints registered at the Weights and Measures and six at the Comptroller's office that street price did not match pump price (FY2021). One (1) complaint for every 5, 699,677. One complaint for every Five and half million transactions. The numbers speak for themselves.

Please give SB322 an unfavorable Report

\* Maryland, Motor Fuel Tax and Motor Carrier Tax (IFTA) Annual 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.ne