



NFIB-Maryland – 60 West St., Suite 101 – Annapolis, MD 21401 – www.NFIB.com/Maryland

TO: Senate Finance Committee

FROM: NFIB – Maryland

DATE: January 27, 2022

RE: **OPPOSE SENATE BILL 99** – Cigarettes, Tobacco Products, and Electronic Smoking Devices
– Local Law Authorization

Founded in 1943, NFIB is the voice of small business, advocating on behalf of America's small and independent business owners, both in Washington, D.C., and in all 50 state capitals. With more than 250,000 members nationwide, and nearly 4,000 here in Maryland, we work to protect and promote the ability of our members to grow and operate their business.

On behalf of Maryland's small businesses, NFIB-Maryland opposes Senate Bill 99 – legislation allowing counties and municipalities to set and enforce their own local laws regulating the sale and distribution of tobacco products.

Combined, there are more than 170 counties and municipalities throughout Maryland. Enacting SB99 would mean giving each of them authority to create what will amount to a logistical nightmare when it comes to enforcement and compliance. The costs to comply will skyrocket for retailers – particularly those who operate in multiple jurisdictions. It will lead to redundancies and inconsistencies throughout.

For these reasons **NFIB opposes SB99** and requests an unfavorable committee report.