



SENATE BILL 176

Sales and Use Tax - Tax-Free Day - Veterans' Day

January 24, 2024

Position: Favorable

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Budget and Taxation Committee:

The *Restaurant Association of Maryland* supports Senate Bill 176 establishing a sales tax-free day for veterans on Veterans' Day of each year.

The restaurant industry proudly recognizes and welcomes our veterans. Our organization partnered with the Maryland Department of Veterans Affairs to promote Operation Green Light to our restaurant members, encouraging them to shine a green light to show support of our veterans and raise awareness during the week of Veterans' Day.

Honoring our veterans is important to restaurants and to the communities we serve. The sales tax exemption for Veterans' Day that this legislation would establish would be an additional way for Maryland to recognize these individuals who have served.

For these reasons, we support this legislation and request a favorable report.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Melvin R. Thompson".

Melvin R. Thompson
Senior Vice President
Government Affairs and Public Policy