

# TOBACCO RETAIL MODERNIZATION ACT

SB1056/HB1180

## THE PROBLEM: BIG TOBACCO IS TARGETING OUR KIDS

Despite decades of progress, kids are still accessing tobacco products, which can include flavored tobacco and e-cigarettes. Today over 48,000 Maryland high school students self-report using tobacco products. With the tobacco industry relentlessly targeting its next generation, the time for action to stop access is now.



**\$3.14b**

Annual healthcare costs directly caused by smoking



**48,000+**

MD high school students use tobacco products



**27.5%**

MD cancer deaths attributable to smoking

## THE SOLUTION

The Maryland General Assembly has the opportunity to protect the health and future of our youth by passing the Tobacco Retail Modernization Act (TRMA), which will limit youth access to tobacco.



**81%**

of Marylanders support taking action to prevent the sale of tobacco to our kids

## HOW IT WORKS

The proposed legislation updates Maryland law by strengthening regulations in three key areas:



### Licensing Reform

- Increase the tobacco retailer license fee and use those funds to pay for enforcement activities.
- Increase penalty for sales to minors, authorize courts to temporarily suspend retail licenses for repeat violations, and authorize courts to revoke licenses for bad actors.



### Limiting Youth Access to Tobacco

- Adopt best practices including sale-to-minors audits, prohibiting sales in pharmacies, and restricting sales of e-cigs/vapes to specially-licensed dealers.



### Youth Tobacco Access and E-Cig/Vape Study

- Study issues related to youth tobacco access and e-cig use, including mapping current retail license density and proximity to schools and healthcare facilities, and the public health impact of tobacco and e-cig/vape use on young people.