



Mid-Atlantic Petroleum Distributors Association
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TO: House Ways and Means Committee

FROM: Mid-Atlantic Petroleum Distributors Association

DATE: February 6, 2025

RE: **HOUSE BILL 539** – State Lottery – Ticket Purchase and Delivery by Third-Party Entity – Authorization

On behalf of Maryland's convenience store marketers and energy distributors, MAPDA urges the committee to issue an unfavorable report on HB539.

This legislation would authorize the State Lottery and Gaming Control Agency to allow for a third-party courier service to purchase and deliver lottery products to players.

A primary concern is the negative impact this bill would have on in-store sales. The likelihood is they would suffer as lottery players who customarily purchase snacks, beverages, fuel, and other items with their lottery products will no longer be in our stores.

Lottery courier services are relatively new with a handful of states authorizing their use. Moving lottery players from a traditional in-person transaction to a digital one comes with inherent risks of fraud and unlicensed operators.

Finally, our members are especially concerned this bill paves the way for full fledged online lottery. Something MAPDA adamantly opposes.

Thank you for your consideration. We urge the Ways and Means Committee to issue an **UNFAVORABLE COMMITTEE REPORT on HB539.**

Feeding and fueling the economy through gas, coffee, food, heating oil and propane.

MAPDA is an association of convenience stores and energy distributors in Maryland, Delaware & the District of Columbia.