

MARYLAND RETAILERS ALLIANCE

The Voice of Retailing in Maryland



HB461 Sales and Use Tax - Cut Flowers - Exemption Ways and Means Committee February 6th, 2025

Position: Favorable

Background: HB461 would exempt the purchase of cut flowers from the State sales and use tax.

Comments: The Maryland Retailers Alliance supports HB461 Sales and Use Tax - Cut Flowers - Exemption. Exempting cut flowers from the State sales and use tax would reduce the overall cost of the sale of flowers in Maryland, incentivizing their purchase within the state. This benefits both customers purchasing and businesses selling these cut flowers, not only by increasing sales but also by reducing overall costs through lowering transaction totals and thereby reducing the interchange fees that businesses must pay to process card transactions. As State law already allows agricultural food products to be sold without incurring the sales and use tax, and as some flowers are considered to be edible products, HB461 would align the sale tax application across these agricultural items.

We would urge the Committee to vote favorably on this proposal. Thank you for your consideration.