

MARYLAND RETAILERS ALLIANCE

The Voice of Retailing in Maryland



HB598 – Anne Arundel County – Property Tax Credit – Supermarkets
Ways and Means Committee
February 11th, 2025

Position: Favorable

Background: HB598 authorizes the government of Anne Arundel County to issue a tax credit against the personal property tax for remodels of existing supermarkets or the construction of new supermarkets that are located in food desert retail incentive areas as defined by the County government.

Comments: The Maryland Retailers Alliance (MRA) strongly supports the property tax credit proposed in **HB598 Anne Arundel County – Property Tax Credit – Supermarkets**. The average grocery store in the United States operates with the slimmest profit margins in the retail industry – typically about 1-3%. As businesses continue to face unavoidable increases in their operating costs for everything from labor to insurance to utilities, creative approaches like industry-specific tax credits can stabilize and attract food retailers to the communities that need them most. HB598 would benefit the citizens of Anne Arundel County and create a more inviting business environment for the supermarket industry.

With this in mind, we would urge a favorable report on HB598. Thank you for your consideration.