



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 618** – State Lottery – Internet Sales of Subscription Plans – Authorization

On behalf of Maryland's convenience store marketers and energy distributors, MAPDA urges the committee to issue an unfavorable report on HB618.

This legislation would authorize the State Lottery and Gaming Control Agency to establish an internet-based subscription service for lottery products.

Currently, a player can log on to their account, complete a form for a lottery subscription, and mail it in to the lottery agency.

A primary concern with HB618 is the language used in 9-111(e)(2). Nothing would prohibit the agency from contracting with a third-party vendor who could then promote and run ads directing players to their own site and away from traditional brick-and-mortar locations. At the very least, retail lottery agents should be allowed to offer subscription plans at their counters and terminals.

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 HB618.**

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.