

# MARYLAND RETAILERS ALLIANCE

*The Voice of Retailing in Maryland*



## **HB34 Sales and Use Tax - Tax-Free Day - Veterans' Day Ways and Means Committee January 23, 2025**

### **Position: Favorable**

**Background:** HB34 would establish an annual tax-free day on Veterans' Day for veterans.

**Comments:** The Maryland Retailers Alliance (MRA) supports the establishment of an annual sales tax holiday on Veterans' Day for veterans who have served in the armed forces of the United States. Periods of sales tax exemption provide powerful promotional opportunities for businesses in Maryland and provide relief to families with carefully planned budgets, which can be particularly meaningful to many veterans. These tax-free events encourage consumers to shop at local brick-and-mortar stores, supporting businesses that employ Marylanders and are invested in their communities. Exempting United States veterans from paying State sales and use tax in celebration of Veterans' Day both honors their contributions to the safety of their communities and supports local businesses.

MRA has historically partnered with the Office of the Comptroller to promote the annual back-to-school tax-free week in August and Shop Energy Weekend in February and would continue that collaboration to ensure the success of an additional tax holiday on Veterans' Day.

Thank you for your consideration. We would urge the Committee's favorable vote on HB34.