

Senate Bill 644

Position: Favorable

Committee: Budget and Tax

Date: March 4, 2026

Founded in 1968, the Maryland Chamber of Commerce (“Maryland Chamber”) is a statewide coalition of more than 7,000 members working to develop and promote strong public policy that ensures sustained economic growth and opportunity for all Marylanders.

Senate Bill 644 (“SB 644”) makes practical improvements to how Maryland administers sales and use tax for transactions involving multiple points of use (MPU). As digital products, cloud services, and enterprise software agreements increasingly span multiple states, SB 644 ensures that Maryland benefits from an administrative process that reflects the realities of modern commerce.

To be clear, SB 644 does not change Maryland’s tax base, raise rates, or create new exemptions. Instead, it focuses on improving administration. Current law requires purchasers to obtain prior approval from the Comptroller for each individual transaction before issuing an MPU certificate. That transaction-by-transaction approval process is inefficient and creates avoidable delays for both taxpayers and the Comptroller’s office.

SB 644 adopts a more streamlined approach seen in other states by treating MPU certificates in the same manner as resale or exemption certificates — as routine administrative documents issued directly to vendors. By allowing purchasers to provide a properly completed MPU certificate directly to vendors for qualifying purchases, the bill reduces unnecessary paperwork while maintaining appropriate safeguards.

Additionally, SB 644 bolsters administrative clarity by specifying what information must be included on an MPU certificate and creating a standardized form generated by the Comptroller. As a result, SB 644 provides consistency for taxpayers and vendors alike and reduces the risk of confusion or inadvertent noncompliance.

In short, SB 644 is a straightforward modernization measure. It improves efficiency, enhances clarity, and aligns Maryland’s administrative practices with those used in other states. **For these reasons, the Maryland Chamber respectfully requests a favorable report on SB 644.**