

MARYLAND RETAILERS ALLIANCE

The Voice of Retailing in Maryland



SB926 Producer Responsibility for Packaging and Paper Products - Definition of Exempt Material - Alteration
Committee on Education, Energy, and the Environment
March 3, 2026

Position: Favorable

Background: SB926 would add packaging for dietary supplements to the category of exempt material in the extended producer for paper and packaging program.

Comments: The Maryland Retailers Alliance (MRA) strongly supports **SB926 Producer Responsibility for Packaging and Paper Products - Definition of Exempt Material – Alteration**, which would add packaging for dietary supplements to the category of exempted material in Maryland’s extended producer responsibility (EPR) program for paper and packaging. MRA advocated for this language to be included in the EPR law as passed and appreciates the sponsor’s attention to the need to include it at this time.

Should the Committee wish to further strengthen the language regarding drug and medical device packaging, MRA would also support an amendment to exempt the secondary and tertiary packaging associated with these products. Such packaging typically includes items like temperature-controlled shipping materials, protective containers, gel packs, cushioning for glass vials, and other safety packaging. As this packaging is often necessary to maintain the integrity of volatile medicines or otherwise protect life-saving drugs and medical devices, it would be appropriate to exempt it from the reporting mandates, fees, and potential penalties along with the primary packaging.

As introduced, SB926 would correct the oversight of excluding packaging for dietary supplements alongside other medications, thereby addressing one of MRA’s lingering concerns with the EPR law as passed. We appreciate the Committee’s work on this complex issue and respectfully urge a favorable vote on SB926. Thank you for your consideration.