



Mid-Atlantic Petroleum Distributors Association
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TO: House Ways and Means Committee

FROM: Mid-Atlantic Petroleum Distributors Association

DATE: February 12, 2026

RE: **HOUSE BILL 371** – State Lottery – Courier Services – Licensure

On behalf of Maryland's convenience store marketers and energy distributors, MAPDA urges the committee to issue an unfavorable report on HB371.

This legislation would authorize the State Lottery and Gaming Control Agency (SLGCA) to create a courier services license.

A primary concern is the negative impact this bill would have on in-store sales. The likelihood is they would suffer as lottery players who customarily purchase their lottery products will no longer be in our stores to also purchase snacks, beverages, fuel, and other items.

Lottery courier services are relatively new with a handful of states authorizing their use. Moving lottery players from a traditional in-person transaction to a digital one comes with inherent risks of fraud and unlicensed operators.

As the SLGCA pointed out in the fiscal note, this bill has the potential to decrease revenues for small businesses.

It is also important to point out the courier experience in other states. Texas banned couriers last year after a sophisticated plot was uncovered that had led to two fraudulent jackpot winnings. And as noted in the testimony of a courier service operator in last year's testimony on HB539 – couriers actually front their own retail establishment in other states where they operate as a way to operate multiple ticket terminals in the back of the store.

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 HB371.**

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.