



Mid-Atlantic Petroleum Distributors Association
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TO: Senate Budget & Taxation Committee

FROM: Mid-Atlantic Petroleum Distributors Association

DATE: February 21, 2024

RE: **SENATE BILL 782** – Motor Fuel Tax Rates – Consumer Price Index Adjustment – Suspension by Board of Public Works

On behalf of Maryland’s convenience stores and energy distributors, MAPDA urges the committee to issue a favorable report on SB782.

The Mid-Atlantic Petroleum Distributors Association (MAPDA) is a regional trade association representing energy marketers throughout Delaware, Maryland and the District of Columbia. MAPDA member companies supply a majority of all finished motor and heating fuel products sold in the region including gasoline, diesel fuel, heating fuels and biofuels such as renewable diesel and biodiesel. MAPDA members also own and operate Delaware, Maryland, and DC’s gas stations and convenience stores which are mostly small, family-owned and operated businesses who offer a variety of products their consumers want and have come to rely on for ease and availability of purchase.

This legislation would allow the Board of Public Works to temporarily suspend an increase in the state’s motor fuel tax. Currently, the state’s motor fuel tax increases each year on July 1 based on the Consumer Price Index (CPI) subject to certain restrictions.

As the motoring public has witnessed over the past two years, inflation has caused significant hikes at the pump on July 1. They have come as families and businesses were dealing with the fallout from inflation, a war in Ukraine, post-COVID supply chain issues, and more. SB782 will provide a necessary, temporary off-ramp giving Marylanders some relief at the pump.

For these reasons, MAPDA urges the committee to issue a **favorable report on SB782**.

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.