

HOUSE BILL 962

C2, Q7

3lr1686

By: **Delegates Bates, Dwyer, Frank, Hough, Kipke, McComas, B. Robinson, Stocksdale, Szeliga, and Vitale**

Introduced and read first time: February 7, 2013

Assigned to: Economic Matters

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Motor Fuel Taxes – Consumer Disclosure Requirements**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring a person who sells motor fuel at retail to mark
4 dispensing equipment conspicuously to show the amount of each tax that is
5 included in the total price; providing for the application of this Act; and
6 generally relating to disclosing motor fuel taxes to consumers.

7 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
8 Article – Business Regulation
9 Section 10–315
10 Annotated Code of Maryland
11 (2010 Replacement Volume and 2012 Supplement)

12 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
13 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

14 **Article – Business Regulation**

15 10–315.

16 (a) A person who sells motor fuel at retail shall display signs in accordance
17 with this section.

18 (b) (1) All dispensing equipment for motor fuel shall be marked
19 conspicuously to show:

20 **(I)** in numerals of equal size the **TOTAL** price, including taxes,
21 of a gallon of the motor fuel offered for sale; **AND**

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (ii) The sign required under subparagraph (i) of this paragraph
2 also may state the lowest price for a whole measurement unit of diesel and other
3 motor fuel products sold on the premises.

4 (3) All numerals on the sign shall:

5 (i) be uniform;

6 (ii) be at least 8 inches high and 3.5 inches wide; and

7 (iii) have a brush stroke of at least 1 inch.

8 (4) A numeral in a fraction or a letter shall be at least one-third the
9 height of a numeral that indicates a whole number.

10 (5) If a new or additional sign is required to comply with this
11 subsection, the supplier of the gasoline shall provide the sign and numerals without
12 cost to the retail service station dealer.

13 (f) A sign required at a service station by this section or any other State or
14 federal law is exempt from the provisions of a local law, ordinance, or regulation for
15 the purpose of determining:

16 (1) the total number of signs permitted; and

17 (2) the area of signs permitted.

18 (g) Except as provided in subsection (f) of this section, signs regulated by this
19 section or other State law or by federal law may be regulated by the local zoning
20 authority and shall be consistent with the local law, ordinance, or regulation
21 governing signs.

22 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act applies to any
23 retail sales transaction conducted on or after April 1, 2014.

24 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
25 October 1, 2013.