

retail price of imported cigarettes in Maryland. This legislation could have the undesirable effect of lowering the cost of cigarettes at the retail level, a result that is entirely inconsistent with Maryland's effort to reduce the consumption of cigarettes, particularly by teenagers. For the past several years, through our tax policy and our nationally recognized use of our share of the national tobacco settlement, Maryland has taken steps to reduce tobacco consumption through increased prices, education, enforcement and treatment. Reversing this policy by potentially reducing the price of cigarettes would be unwise and unwarranted.

For the above reasons, I have vetoed Senate Bill 582.

Sincerely,
Parris N. Glendening
Governor

Senate Bill No. 582

AN ACT concerning

Cigarette Business Licensing Law – Cigarette Nonresident Dealers

FOR the purpose of defining "cigarette nonresident dealer" for the cigarette business licensing law and the Maryland Cigarette Sales Below Cost Act; substituting the term "cigarette nonresident dealer" for the term "manufacturer" for the cigarette business licensing law and the Maryland Cigarette Sales Below Cost Act; requiring a person who acts as a cigarette nonresident dealer in the State to have a certain license; exempting certain persons from obtaining a cigarette nonresident dealer license under certain circumstances; prohibiting a licensed cigarette nonresident dealer from having certain interests in a wholesaler; prohibiting a licensed wholesaler from having certain interests in a cigarette nonresident dealer; prohibiting the issuance of a wholesaler license to certain persons; requiring an applicant for a cigarette nonresident dealer ~~license~~ license to maintain an established place of business for the sale of cigarettes; authorizing a cigarette nonresident dealer licensee to sell certain cigarettes to certain wholesalers under certain circumstances; defining the term "manufacturer" for the tobacco tax law; and generally relating to cigarette nonresident dealers under the cigarette business licensing law.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article – Business Regulation

Section 16-201, 16-202, 16-203(a), 16-204(a), 16-205(a), 16-206(a), (c), and (f),
16-210(a), and 16-214

Annotated Code of Maryland

(1998 Replacement Volume and 2001 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article – Commercial Law

Section 11-501 and 11-505

Annotated Code of Maryland