C2 3lr0704

By: Senator Kagan

Introduced and read first time: January 20, 2023

Assigned to: Finance

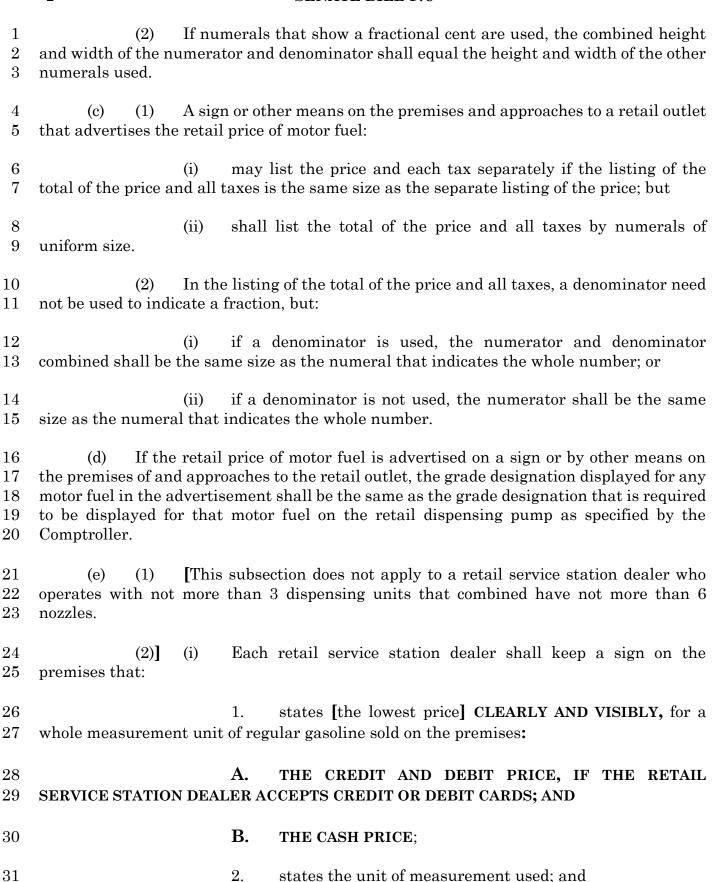
A BILL ENTITLED

1	AN ACT concerning
2 3	Business Regulation – Sale of Motor Fuel – Signage (Gas Price Gouging Act)
4 5 6 7 8 9 10	FOR the purpose of requiring that a certain sign kept on the premises of a retail service station state the credit and debit price and the cash price for a certain unit of regular gasoline; authorizing a certain sign to state the credit and debit price and the cash price for a certain unit of diesel and other motor fuel products; repealing an exemption from a certain signage requirement for retail service station dealers with not more than a certain number of dispensing units and nozzles; and generally relating to signs at retail service stations.
11 12 13 14 15	BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments, Article – Business Regulation Section 10–315 Annotated Code of Maryland (2015 Replacement Volume and 2022 Supplement)
16 17	SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:
18	Article - Business Regulation
19	10–315.
20 21	(a) A person who sells motor fuel at retail shall display signs in accordance with this section.
22 23	(b) (1) All dispensing equipment for motor fuel shall be marked conspicuously to show in numerals of equal size the price, including taxes, of a gallon of the motor fuel

offered for sale.



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is readable by passing motorists.

3.

$\frac{1}{2}$	(ii) The sign required under subparagraph (i) of this paragraph also
3	may state [the lowest price], for a whole measurement unit of diesel and other motor fuel products sold on the premises:
4 5	1. THE CREDIT AND DEBIT PRICE, IF THE RETAIL SERVICE STATION DEALER ACCEPTS CREDIT OR DEBIT CARDS; AND
6	2. THE CASH PRICE.
7	[(3)] (2) All numerals on the sign shall:
8	(i) be uniform;
9	(ii) be at least 8 inches high and 3.5 inches wide; and
10	(iii) have a brush stroke of at least 1 inch.
11 12	[(4)] (3) A numeral in a fraction or a letter shall be at least one—third the height of a numeral that indicates a whole number.
13 14 15	[(5)] (4) If a new or additional sign is required to comply with this subsection, the supplier of the gasoline shall provide the sign and numerals without cost to the retail service station dealer.
16 17 18	(f) A sign required at a service station by this section or any other State or federal law is exempt from the provisions of a local law, ordinance, or regulation for the purpose of determining:
19	(1) the total number of signs permitted; and
20	(2) the area of signs permitted.
21 22 23	(g) Except as provided in subsection (f) of this section, signs regulated by this section or other State law or by federal law may be regulated by the local zoning authority and shall be consistent with the local law, ordinance, or regulation governing signs.
24 25	SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2023 .