SENATE BILL 322

C2 SB 220/20 – FIN

By: Senators Kagan, West, and Benson

Introduced and read first time: January 20, 2022

Assigned to: Finance

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 Gas Price Gouging Act

- 3 FOR the purpose of altering the information about a certain measurement of certain gasoline that must be stated on a certain sign on the premises of a retail service 4 5 station dealer to require that the highest price, or the cash price and the credit price, 6 be stated in a certain manner; authorizing a certain sign to state the highest price, 7 or the cash price and the credit price, for a certain measurement of certain other 8 motor fuel products; repealing a certain exemption from a certain signage requirement for certain retail service station dealers; and generally relating to 9 required signs at retail service stations. 10
- 11 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
- 12 Article Business Regulation
- 13 Section 10–315
- 14 Annotated Code of Maryland
- 15 (2015 Replacement Volume and 2021 Supplement)
- 16 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
- 17 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

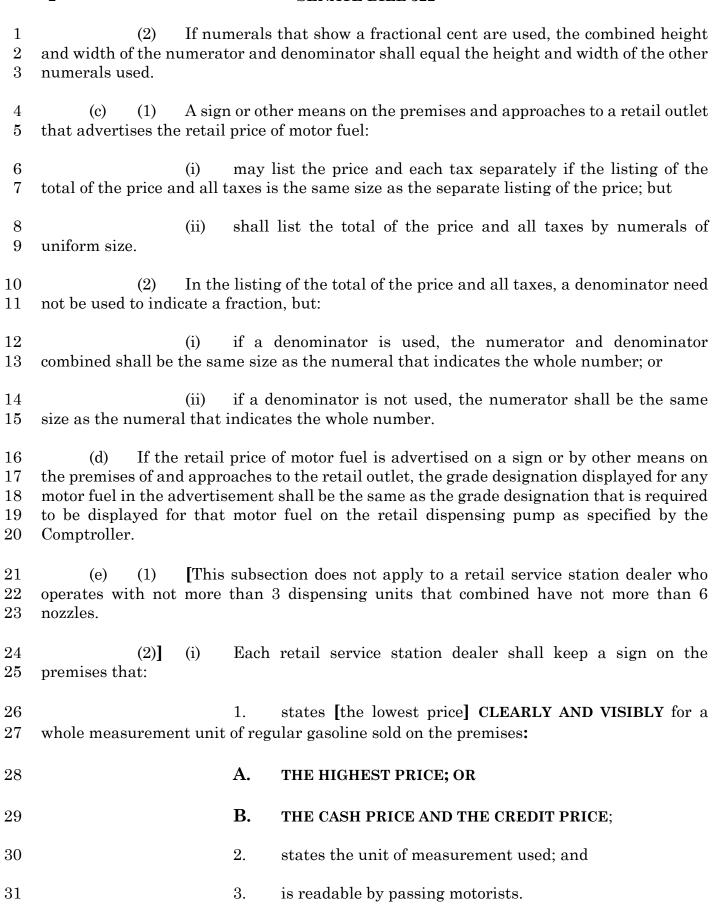
18 Article – Business Regulation

- 19 10-315.
- 20 (a) A person who sells motor fuel at retail shall display signs in accordance with 21 this section.
- 22 (b) (1) All dispensing equipment for motor fuel shall be marked conspicuously 23 to show in numerals of equal size the price, including taxes, of a gallon of the motor fuel 24 offered for sale.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.





1 2 3	(ii) The sign required under subparagraph (i) of this paragraph also may state [the lowest price] for a whole measurement unit of diesel and other motor fue products sold on the premises:			
4		1.	THE HIGHEST PRICE; OR	
5		2.	THE CASH PRICE AND THE CREDIT PRICE.	
6	[(3)] (2)	All n	umerals on the sign shall:	
7	(i)	be ur	niform;	
8	(ii)	be at	least 8 inches high and 3.5 inches wide; and	
9	(iii)	have	a brush stroke of at least 1 inch.	
10	[(4)] (3) height of a numeral that	A numeral in a fraction or a letter shall be at least one—third the that indicates a whole number.		
12 13 14	[(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.			
15 16 17	(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:			
18	(1) the te	otal nu	umber of signs permitted; and	
9	(2) the a	rea of	signs permitted.	
20 21 22	(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.			
23 24	SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2022.			