

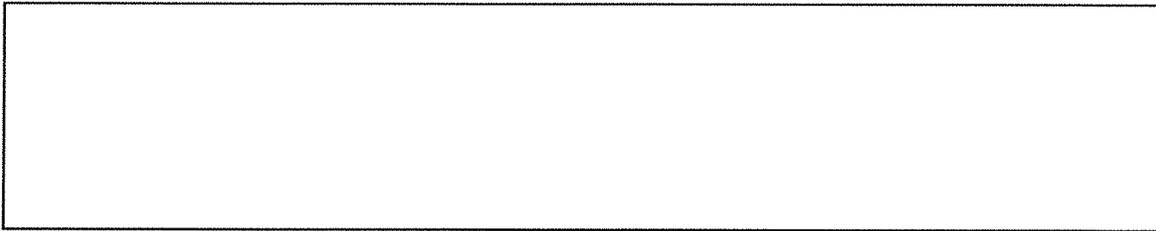


Susan Gouveia

From: Lashway, Lisa
Sent: Tuesday, May 07, 2013 4:16 PM
To: Canning, Sean; Susan Gouveia
Subject: FW: Marketplace Fairness Act Passes Senate: Thanks to Mayors Who Voiced Support for Main Street Retailers

Lisa Lashway
Mt. Olive Twp. Clerk
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Budd Lake, NJ 07828

From: NJLM to Municipal Officials [mailto:njlm-clerks@njslom.org]
Sent: Tuesday, May 07, 2013 4:15 PM
To: Lashway, Lisa
Subject: Marketplace Fairness Act Passes Senate: Thanks to Mayors Who Voiced Support for Main Street Retailers



Washington Watch Fax Advisory

May 7, 2013

RE: Marketplace Fairness Act Passes Senate: Thanks to Mayors Who Voiced Support for Main Street Retailers

Dear Mayor:

Thanks to your efforts and the work of municipal officials in other States, last night the U.S. Senate passed the Marketplace Fairness Act with a vote of 69-27 in favor of the legislation. We want to thank Senator Menendez for his support on this. (Senator Lautenberg did not vote on the bill.)

The Marketplace Fairness Act was introduced by Senators Mike Enzi, Dick Durbin and Lamar Alexander. It is intended to level the retail "playing field" for our Main Street merchants, by eliminating a competitive advantage enjoyed by internet marketers.

Under current law, states can only collect sales taxes from retailers that have a physical presence in their state. People who order items online from another state are supposed to declare the purchases on their tax forms, but few do. The Marketplace Fairness Act would empower states to tax online

purchases but would exempt small businesses that earn less than \$1 million annually from out-of-state sales. It does not create any new tax or increase any existing tax. It simply provides for the enforcement of state and local governments' authority and levels the playing field between Main Street and online retailers.

While the lion's share of New Jersey's Sales Tax is used to finance State government operations, ½ of 1 penny of the 7% sales tax is constitutionally dedicated to property tax relief.

The League has long supported a Federal fix to the disparity. Our statements and letters on this have consistently made the following points:

- The Internet tax exemption gives electronic merchants a competitive advantage over our Main Street businesspeople.
- Merchants who maintain a physical presence in our communities pay property taxes, which are used to pave and police our roads, to build and staff our schools and libraries, to secure and preserve our parks and recreational facilities.
- They also employ our fellow citizens, who, in turn, pay income taxes, and who buy or rent homes and pay their own property taxes.
- But that is just the start of what our hometown merchants contribute to the community. They contribute to local charities, sponsor youth sports teams and, in a thousand other ways, they give life to the communities that contribute to their prosperity.

The bill faces an uncertain future in the House of Representatives. Please contact your Congressman and ask that he support Marketplace Fairness.

Very truly yours,

Janice S. Mironov, President,
New Jersey League of Municipalities,
Mayor, East Windsor Township

Brian Wahler
Mayor, Piscataway
Member, NJLM Executive Board
Chair, NJLM Telecommunications Study
Committee

PLEASE NOTE: As of May 15, 2013 we will no longer fax our Membership Advisories unless you specifically request it. Please contact Shirley Cade at scade@njslom.com or 609-695-3481 ext. 114 ONLY if you choose to continue having our Advisories faxed to your Municipality.

NJLM Advisories are posted daily on our website at www.njslom.org as well as emailed to our clerks list. If you have not registered to be on our clerks email list you can do so through our website or contact Shirley Cade.

Please be advised that the information you receive is not legal advice. You must consult your town attorney to make sure that any of the material you receive is in accordance with current state law and your particular facts and situation.

Please be advised that the New Jersey State League of Municipalities is subject to the New Jersey Open Public Records Act. As such, any email sent or received by the League may be subject to a records request.

New Jersey League of Municipalities
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