

News Release

Comptroller Lierman Reminds Marylanders to Take Advantage of Shop Maryland Energy Sales Tax Savings This Weekend

Shop local February 18 through 20 to get tax-free deals on ENERGY STAR appliances

ANNAPOLIS, Md. (February 17, 2023) - Comptroller Brooke Lierman reminds Marylanders that **Shop Maryland Energy Weekend** – February 18 through 20 – is a good time to replace an old appliance with a qualifying ENERGY STAR appliance and save on the state's six percent sales tax.

During Presidents' Day Weekend, the following appliances bearing the ENERGY STAR label, purchased in-store or online, and whether used or new, will be exempt from the state's six percent sales tax: air conditioners, washers and dryers, standard-size refrigerators, furnaces, heat pumps, boilers, compact fluorescent light bulbs, dehumidifiers and programmable thermostats. Solar water heaters are tax-exempt year-round.

"Shop Maryland Energy Weekend has three benefits at once," says Comptroller Lierman. "Consumers will save money—both at the time of purchase and in the long run with their decreased monthly energy bills. It helps local store owners improve their sales. And it helps Maryland reach its environmental sustainability goals. A lot of ENERGY STAR appliance manufacturers, local retailers, and utility companies also will be offering additional savings, so this is a great time for that big-ticket appliance purchase you may have been thinking about."

The Comptroller encourages Marylanders to make their purchases at locally owned retailers that count on these sales during an otherwise slow time of year. To receive the ENERGY STAR label, a product must meet strict standards for energy efficiency set by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. For more information

about the ENERGY STAR label and to view eligible products, visit energystar.gov

The tax-free weekend for energy-efficient appliances began in 2011 and its impact has grown ever since. It is estimated that while the state loses \$800,000 in direct tax revenue on the purchase of ENERGY STAR products, additional sales on other taxable products generates unanticipated tax dollars while the environmental impact carries long-term financial benefits.



To promote Shop Maryland Energy Weekend, Comptroller Lierman visited ABW Appliances A Better Way in Pikesville this afternoon, joined by County Executive John A. Olszewski Jr., Baltimore County Council Chairman Julian E. Jones Jr.(D-4), Baltimore County Councilmember Izzy Patoka (D-2) ABW founder and President Bob Dhyani, ABW CEO Ryan Simon, the Maryland Sierra Club's Rob Frier and members of the Greater Baltimore

Chamber of Commerce and Pikesville Chamber of Commerce. Additionally, Comptroller Lierman will be appearing on radio and television broadcasts across the state over the holiday weekend.

To watch a video of today's Shop Maryland Energy Weekend press conference, please click this link.

MEDIA CONTACTS: Adam Abadir - <u>aabadir@marylandtaxes.gov</u> 667-408-0768 (cell)

Barbara Sauers - <u>bsauers@marylandtaxes.gov</u> 410-212-9414 (cell)

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