



## Frequently Asked Questions

### ***Why should I join the VRMA?***

The VRMA since 1905 has worked closely with the Virginia retail industry to insure that legislation affecting retailers is favorable and protects from unnecessary fees and regulations. As the demands on retailers increase each year, it is critical that they entrust the VRMA to be their legislative watchdog. When one considers the number of special interests groups lobbying the Virginia General Assembly and Congress, it is in the best interest of retailers to have a unified voice and a strong spokesperson working on their behalf. Not to mention dues are 88% tax deductible as a necessary business expense.

### ***Who belongs to VRMA?***

Appliance, auto, clothing, convenience, department, drug, furniture, gas stations, gift, greeting card, grocery, hardware, jewelry, office supply, specialty, sporting goods stores and more...over 1,300 retail outlets benefit from the legislative services and member services offered by the VRMA.

### ***Will I make a difference by joining the VRMA?***

With more than 37,000 retail outlets in the state employing almost 20% of the labor force, it is critical that all retailers work together to ensure and protect the future of free enterprise. It is critical that retailers be aware of legislation affecting their livelihood and have their voice heard by their respective Delegates to the Virginia General Assembly. A strong grassroots representation throughout the state has influence with the Delegates. The VRMA ensures the retail voice is heard both in Richmond and in Congress.

### ***Will my voice heard?***

The VRMA membership encompasses a broad spectrum of retailers. However, the majority of members are small to medium-sized independent retailers. The VRMA legislative agenda is set by the Legislative Committee comprised of a cross-section of retailers, both large and small. It is the intent of this committee to carefully consider any legislation affecting all retailers and its impact, positively or negatively on the entire retail industry. While recognizing the changes that the retail industry has undergone in past years, the VRMA intends to fairly represent all retailers regardless of size.