



May 22, 2025

Swipe Fee Reform Vote Expected to Come Before US Senate In the Coming Days- Your Contacts Are Crucial

Last week we voiced our support on federal swipe fee reform in meetings on Capitol Hill in conjunction with the EMA's annual Washington Conference. Wednesday, during the NACS Industry Update Luncheon, we learned from NACS President Henry Armor that the US Senate would likely vote on the so-called Durbin swipe fee amendment soon. NACS and EMA are members of the Merchants Payment Coalition which has been working diligently for several years to bring about change to domestic interchange fees which are neither competitive or proportional to the services rendered in processing credit transactions. We have already contacted Senators Warner and Kaine to urge them to vote in favor of swipe fee reform and urge you to do the same.

The fact is that credit card swipe fees continue to rise at an unsustainable rate – they're up 84% since 2020 for petroleum marketers because the credit card giants set the fees for their issuing banks. The result is they gain huge profits, while Main Street businesses and everyday Americans lose.

While the details are still emerging, Senators Roger Marshall (R-KS) and Richard Durbin (D-IL) are making a strong push to include the Credit Card Competition Act as an amendment to the Senate's stablecoin cryptocurrency bill (the "GENIUS Act"). Now is the time to contact Senators Warner and Kaine to vote yes in support of Virginia businesses. EMA has prepared a draft letter that will be automatically sent to the senators when you add in your name, business and address. We urge you to take two minutes to make your voice heard today. Below is the link to the Senate letter:

Support the Marshall - Durbin Amendment!

Members Participate in EMA Washington Conference

Last week a delegation of members attended the annual Washington Conference of the Energy Marketers Association of America. As a member of VPCMA, you are automatically a member of EMA, which lobbies Congress and the many federal agencies impacting the industry. A highlight of the conference were meetings with two new members of the Virginia Congressional Delegation, Suhas Subramanyam of Loudon and Fairfax Counties, and John McGuire who represents an expansive district from southside all the way to metropolitan Richmond. In addition to swipe fees, we urged the congressmen to sign onto a

letter urging the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration to reform the process where in times of weather or supply emergencies they issue grant waivers for hours of service and weight. Just last winter the agency extended waivers for Maryland and North Carolina, but omitted Virginia. Thanks to VDOT leadership, this was corrected after considerable efforts.



Above: L to R: Lewis Wall, Mike O'Connor, Elizabeth McCormick, Congressman Suhas Subramanyam, Bob Brady, Kunal Kumar

Below: L to R: Lewis Wall, Elizabeth McCormick, Congressman John McGuire, Alicia Brady, Bob Brady, Kunal Kumar



Thank You EMA PAC Contributors

Earlier this month we initiated our solicitation for contributions to the Energy Marketers Association (EMA) of America's Political Action Committee. As a VPCMA member, you are automatically a member of EMA which lobbies Congress and interacts with many regulatory agencies that impact the nation's fuel marketers. An important component of that representation is supporting those elected officials who support us on Capitol Hill. Federal political contributions must be made by **personal check**. We hope that you will join us in sending a check for \$150 made out to "**EMA PAC**." Please mail to the office as follows:

VPCMA
7275 Glen Forest Drive
Suite 204
Richmond, VA 23226

Thank you to all of our contributors to date:

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Lash Barksdale
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Doug Shonk
Gordon Sutton
Lewis Wall
Stratford Ward
Jack Woodfin

Save the Date!

VPCMA 77th Annual Meeting
September 28-30, 2025
The Williamsburg Lodge
Colonial Williamsburg, VA

Registration and other details available late June!

Sincerely,

Mike O'Connor
President, VPCMA



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