

The State of Maryland



Proclamation

From the Governor of the State of Maryland

WE CARD AWARENESS MONTH SEPTEMBER 2017

- WHEREAS,** *Maryland State law prohibits the sale of any substance containing tobacco, including cigarettes, cigars, smoking tobacco, snuff, smokeless tobacco, as well as tobacco paraphernalia, including: electronic cigarettes, cigarette rolling paper; metal, wooden, acrylic, glass, stone, plastic, or ceramic pipes with or without screens permanent screens, or punctured metal bowls; water pipes; a carburation tube or device; smoking or carburation mask; a roach clip; a chamber pipe; a carburetor pipe; an electric pipe; and an irp-driven pipe; a chillum; a gong; and an ice pipe or chiller to persons under the age of 18; and*
- WHEREAS,** *We Card Awareness Month is a retail education and training effort to boost Maryland retailers' awareness of the participation in responsible retailing efforts to comply with federal, state and local laws and identify, prevent and deny tobacco and other age-restricted product sales to minors; and*
- WHEREAS,** *2017 is the 22nd anniversary year of the national non-profit organization, THE "WE CARD" PROGRAM INC. - providing training and education to the retail community to help retailers comply with age-restricted product laws and serve their communities as responsible retailers; and*
- WHEREAS,** *We Card in-store training and education materials, its online training program and its mystery shopping service "ID Check-Up" are available to all Marylander retailers through We Card's website; and*
- WHEREAS,** *We Card is endorsed by the Maryland Association of Tobacco & Candy Distributors, Maryland Licensed Beverage Association, Mid-Atlantic Food Dealers Association, Washington, Maryland, Delaware Service Station and Automotive Repair Association, and Maryland Retailers Association, and Maryland will benefit from a responsible retailing community that successfully prevents tobacco and other age-restricted product sales to minors.*

NOW, THEREFORE, I, LAWRENCE J. HOGAN, JR., GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND, do hereby proclaim SEPTEMBER 2017 as WE CARD AWARENESS MONTH in Maryland, and encourage all Maryland retailers to participate in "We Card Awareness Month" and to let their customers know that "In Maryland, we don't sell tobacco and other age-restricted products to kids!"

Given Under My Hand and the Great Seal of the State of Maryland,
this 1st day of September
Two Thousand and seventeen



Lawrence J. Hogan, Jr.
Governor

Robert K. Lathrop
Lt. Governor

John C. W. W. W.
Secretary of State