



GENERAL ASSEMBLY UPDATE



News From VPCGA at the General Assembly

February 21, 2010

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Dear Member,

House and Senate Divided on Fuel Allowance

The two money committees of the General Assembly met this afternoon and reported their versions of the two-year state budget. Unfortunately, the House Appropriations Committee included language which repeals allowances for any entity that files taxes electronically. Ironically, the General Assembly required all licensed distributors to file taxes electronically after the point of collection was moved to the rack in 2001. It appears that House committee members do not recognize that fuel distributors pay taxes on what they purchase - not what they sell, and that their bill will require the membership to pay taxes on gallons that evaporate, are stolen, are written off as bad debt, or lost to dead storage. However, we were pleased to learn that the Senate's budget restores the full fuel allowance. In the coming days, we will be demonstrating the unfairness of the House's version. Depending on the responses received, we may need your presence in Richmond on Monday, March 8th to save the motor fuels allowance. More details will be furnished tomorrow.