



"The MFA does not mandate Internet taxes for online purchases. **It allows states to require web retailers operating in their jurisdictions to collect sales taxes; something states already require brick-and-mortar retailers to do.** Currently, two competitors in the same marketplace (one online and the other behind a storefront) are governed by two distinct tax regimes, giving the online competitor an unfair advantage... **The MFA is neither a mandate nor a tax. It empowers states to treat online companies the same as they treat local retailers.**" (["Conservatives Should Take A Second Look At The Marketplace Fairness Act,"](#) RedState, 7/18/2012)

## The Journal Times

"If you had a choice between paying \$105.10 for an item at the store down the street, or \$100 from an online shopping site, which would you choose? Logically, that's an easy one. But it's a hard pill to swallow if you're the operator of that **brick-and-mortar store down the street, obligated by law to collect state sales tax, and that \$100 sale is going to Amazon.com or one of the other online retailers which, until recently, did not collect sales tax. But that tide is turning. We believe in fair competition, so we think it's about time.**" (["Online Sales Tax Is Only Fair,"](#) *The [Racine] Journal Times*, 7/17/2012)

## THE WALL STREET JOURNAL

WSJ.com

"The movement picked up an important ally when **New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie**—widely mentioned as a potential vice-presidential candidate—recently reached an agreement under which Amazon would collect sales taxes on his state's **online purchases** in exchange for locating distribution facilities there. Mr. Christie called taxation of online sales "**an important issue to all the nation's governors**" and endorsed federal legislation giving all states taxing authority." (["Tax Break Nears End For Online Shoppers,"](#) *The Wall Street Journal*, 7/16/2012)

## The Washington Post

"There's no reason to favor e-commerce at the expense of other business, and it makes no sense to require some businesses to charge more for the same goods. To that end, a bipartisan bill under consideration in the Senate, the Marketplace Fairness Act, would **grant states the authority to require "remote sellers" to collect sales tax in exactly the same way as local businesses are already made to do.**" (["Taxing Online Purchases,"](#) *The Washington Post*, 7/15/2012)



"We believe it is only fair that cyberspace retailers collect a state's sales tax, just like Main Street retailers. The advantage given to online businesses is **inherently unfair and inequitable**... We would urge Rep. Goodlatte to remember all the local businesses through the district who would benefit from the bill. They're local **"job creators" who're just asking for a fair and level playing field upon which to compete. It's the fair thing to do.**" (["Tax Equality Online A Step Closer To Reality,"](#) *The [Lynchburg] News & Advance*, 7/15/2012)

## timesleader.com

"We need our members of Congress... to **stand up for what's right and support e-fairness legislation** such as the Marketplace Equity Act... **The Marketplace Equity Act also would help level what historically has been an uneven playing field for local businesses.** It would enable states to require **online-only businesses to play by the same rules.** And playing by the same rules means collecting the same sales taxes. As the president of Robert M. Sides Family Music Centers, **I'm not looking for a handout or a hand up.** I collect sales tax in New York and Pennsylvania, and **I want my competitors to be treated the same way** when they do business in those states. **It's a simple matter of fairness.**" (["E-Fairness Would Help Retailers Survive Summer Slump,"](#) *The [Wilkes-Barre] Times Leader*, 7/12/2012)

"In what other industry would a business be able to negotiate or outright dodge full compliance with the law? ...**We rarely support new taxes, but this is a matter of fairness. There have been numerous calls — and missed opportunities — for Congress to enact laws simplifying sales tax collection** and requiring enforcement under its interstate commerce powers... Ask any Main Street retailer. Sell a dollar's worth of merchandise or sell \$1 million worth over your physical counter, and you collect sales tax on behalf of state government — or else." (["It's Time To Make Online Retailers Pay Their Fair Share," Central Penn Business Journal, 6/29/2012](#))

## **NapervilleSun**

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"**The chamber believes we need a federal solution**, and we encourage congress to act promptly on this issue... We are a fiscally conservative organization, believing that a low tax environment facilitates business expansion, economic growth and individual achievement. **Businesses and consumers benefit from a free and competitive marketplace**, and we often opine on regulations that unduly interfere or bollox true competition. **This is precisely why the chamber supports legislative action to resolve this distortion.** We'd all like our taxes to be lower, but tacitly permitting tax evasion isn't the correct way to go." (*"Sales Tax Parity A Must For Fairness," Naperville Sun, 6/27/2012*)

## **THE HILL**

"Rep. Steve Womack (R-Ark.), the House bill sponsor, said he has warned his fellow Republicans that states facing budget difficulties might have to turn to tax increases if Congress doesn't act on an online sales tax. **'At some point in time, the impact of this imbalance is going to be so egregious to city, county and state governments that they're going to have to find ways to make up for lost revenue,' Womack said...** 'I certainly believe that taxpayers ought to be able to keep as much of their money as they possibly can,' Womack said. **'I'm not for the government deciding which model of retail sales is preferred.'**" (["Online Sales Tax Receives Lobbying Push From States," The Hill, 5/15/2012](#))

## **FORTUNE**

"Buy from a retailer that doesn't have a physical presence in your home state, and you avoid state and local taxes on your goods at the time of purchase... **It's a great bargain for shoppers but a huge, unfair advantage for the online retailers, which have been beating up their brick-and-mortar counterparts for years...** before we go creating a whole new class of levies, tolls, and tariffs, we should look for inequities in the current code. I'd suggest we start with the Amazon exemption." (["It's Time To Strike Down The 'Amazon Exemption'," Fortune, 3/7/2012](#))

## **Los Angeles Times**

"[I]f states decide to impose a sales tax, they should be able to impose it fairly and effectively. **The bipartisan online-sales-tax proposals are a way to accomplish those goals.** In the process, they would **help states close their budget gaps by enforcing existing laws rather than raising tax rates.** Most important, they would **eliminate the undeserved competitive advantage** some online sellers enjoy because shoppers don't know or don't care that they're obliged to pay taxes." (["Level The Retail Playing Field," Los Angeles Times, 12/11/2011](#))



"**Awarding online sellers an undeserved edge over Main Street stores unfairly undercuts retailers that are a key source of jobs in communities all over the country...** The idea that this is too complicated for businesses to handle is contradicted by reality. Online retailers with stores in many states, such as Barnes & Noble and Wal-Mart, already charge taxes on online sales. **As unappealing as sales taxes feel today, there's no good reason to keep giving online retailers a break.**" (["Editorial: Online Retailers Outgrow Sales Tax Advantage," USA Today, 11/27/2011](#))