

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 10, 2015

Contact: Ron Bonjean/Brian Walsh
(202) 349-1402

Marketplace Fairness Coalition Applauds Bipartisan Re-Introduction in Senate of E-Fairness

WASHINGTON D.C. – The Marketplace Fairness Coalition, which includes the International Council of Shopping Centers (ICSC), the Retail Industry Leaders Association (RILA), the National Retail Federation (NRF), American Farm Bureau, National Association of Wholesaler-Distributors, Consumer Electronics Association, and thousands of other American businesses today applauded the bipartisan re-introduction of the Marketplace Fairness Act (MFA) by U.S. Senators Mike Enzi (R-WY), Dick Durbin (D-IL), Lamar Alexander (R-TN) and Heidi Heitkamp (D-ND).

MFA overwhelmingly passed the Senate last Congress in a bipartisan vote of 69-27, and the Coalition said today that strong bipartisan support for both e-fairness and the need for extension of the Internet access tax moratorium in both Chambers should lead to their consideration and passage this year.

“Today’s action by Senators Enzi and Durbin is a reminder of the strong bipartisan support for e-fairness that exists in Congress,” MFC spokeswoman Jennifer Platt said today. **“Republicans, Democrats and Independents alike recognize that the federal government shouldn’t be in the business of picking the winners and the losers in the retail marketplace. We appreciate the continued support for e-fairness from members of Congress in both parties and urge both the House and the Senate to finally act this year.”**

The re-introduction of e-fairness legislation in the Senate also comes just days after U.S. Supreme Court Justice Anthony Kennedy, who is widely considered the Court’s key swing vote, said it’s time to resolve the issue. As [The Hill newspaper reported](#):

- *Now, Kennedy says that standard no longer makes any sense, given the rise of online shopping, and that it would be “unwise to delay any longer a reconsideration” of the court’s previous ruling. “Quill now harms states to a degree far greater than could have been anticipated earlier,” Kennedy wrote in a concurring opinion to a ruling that allowed a business group to challenge a Colorado sales tax law.*

As many have noted, Justice Kennedy’s concurrence highlights that the status quo is no longer acceptable and Congress should act quickly – today’s re-introduction of this bipartisan legislation is an encouraging first step.

###