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New Video - Roanoke Small Business Owner Highlights Need To Level Retail Playing Field & Pass Marketplace Fairness

Second In A Series Of Testimonials From Voices Around The Country Released By Coalition

WASHINGTON D.C. – The Marketplace Fairness Coalition, which represents thousands of American businesses – large and small, as well as both brick-and-mortar and online – today released the second in a series of videos highlighting the personal stories of small business owners and why it’s important for Congress to pass the *Marketplace Fairness Act*.

This important legislation was passed by the Senate in May with a broad and bipartisan vote, and is currently under consideration in the House. The *Marketplace Fairness Act* simply levels the playing field for all retailers while restoring the rights of states to manage their individual sales tax laws.

Today’s video features small business owner Larry Davidson, a third-generation clothier in Roanoke, Virginia, who explains how his local business is being harmed by the unfair tax advantage given by the federal government to out-of-state online retailers. His story follows that of [James Hatcher, President of Pleasants Hardware](#), which includes seven stores across the Commonwealth of Virginia, and which, like Davidson’s Clothing for Men, is forced to compete on an unfair playing field.

[CLICK HERE TO WATCH LARRY DAVIDSON'S STORY](#)

“The current unfair tax system has real-life consequences for job creators in Roanoke and across the country, like Larry Davidson, who are being forced to compete with one hand tied behind their back,” the Marketplace Fairness Coalition said today. “Passing the Marketplace Fairness Act, and finally removing the federal government from the businesses of picking winners and losers in the free marketplace is long overdue, and we hope Congress will soon act.”

As Mr. Davidson points out in today’s video, “As a local retailer I certainly believe in a free market system and what I don’t want is the government to interfere in the competition – I can certainly compete on the service, I can compete on selection, but it’s unfair for an online seller to have a price advantage with the difference being the sales tax.”

This new video comes on the heels of a [press conference](#) in Salem yesterday where local elected leaders and members of the Roanoke Regional Chamber of Commerce [implored Congress](#) to pass the Marketplace Fairness Act.

For additional information on Larry Davidson and Davidson’s Clothing for Men in Roanoke, [please click here](#).