

January 19, 2011

The Honorable Patrick Quinn
Governor –State of Illinois
207 State House
Springfield, Illinois 62706

Via Facsimile 1-217-524-4049

Dear Governor Quinn:

This letter is to urge you to sign H.B. 3659 as recently passed by the Illinois General Assembly. H.B. 3659 seeks to require remote sellers (e.g. Internet, catalogue, 1-800 numbers, etc.) to collect and remit Illinois' sales tax.

Retailers operating in Illinois are under attack from remote sellers who do not collect and remit the Illinois sales tax. It is one thing to compete against someone who has found a different way to operate. It is another to lose sales to entities that are not collecting and remitting the sales tax and are openly advertising that fact. Internet sales alone grew over 14% in 2010 and are expected to grow by another 14% next year. Main Street retailers are growing at less than 2%. Illinois retailers should not be further undermined by out-of-state entities openly flouting and evading Illinois' sales tax laws.

In order to protect Illinois' Main Street businesses, the value they add to the local property tax rolls, the employees they hire who also pay taxes, and the countless community organizations they support through donations, we strongly urge you to sign H.B. 3659 into law.

Thank you in advance for the consideration we know you will give this request.

Sincerely,