



eBay Inc.

2145 Hamilton Avenue

San Jose, CA 95125

Honorable Paul LePage
#1 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333-0001

March 21, 2012

Dear Governor LePage,

On behalf of eBay Inc. and the small businesses in Maine that use our platform, we strongly encourage you to support exempting all small business retailers from any new Internet Sales Tax burdens. As you consider this important issue, please remember that over a thousand small business retailers and entrepreneurs living in Maine use the Internet as an important part of their retail business. The Internet is not a threat to small business retailers in Maine; it is a critical opportunity for your small businesses to grow.

Current sales tax law equates physical size with tax burdens. A small business retailer operating only in Maine is not required to collect sales taxes across America. This is entirely fair and it helps the small business retailer in Maine compete with multi-billion dollar retailers that have operations in every state and enjoy many cost advantages. The Internet and other technology tools are critical to the long-term survival of small business retailers in Maine by opening access to markets across America. Remarkably, nearly all US small business retailers selling on eBay are exporting over the Internet as well.

If the State of Maine or the United States Congress considers any new Internet Sales Tax legislation, we strongly believe that all small business retailers should be protected from new burdens. This is the smartest and most balanced way to address this issue, and it is not overly complicated. If policymakers ensure that they protect small business retailers in Internet Sales Tax legislation, the Internet will remain open to small business retailers in the future in the same way it is today. This is clearly best for small business innovation, job creation and serving consumer needs.

Small businesses are the cornerstone of recovering local economies. eBay stands committed to working with you for balanced proposals that protect small business retailers in Maine and across the nation by including a robust small business exemption in any new Internet Sales Tax proposal.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Brian Bieron".

Brian Bieron

Senior Director, US Government Relations and Global Public Policy
eBay Inc.

