

Important Notice for our Members re: Credit Card Surcharges

Beginning January 27, 2013, Visa and MasterCard will allow merchants to pass along their payment processing costs to consumers who pay with a credit card. This would mean that a merchant who chooses to exercise this new right could impose a surcharge, sometimes referred to as a “checkout fee,” that could increase your credit card purchase amount by as much as 4% (maximum allowed).

Under the settlement:

- The surcharge cannot exceed the amount that the merchant actually pays to accept credit cards—normally between 1.5% and 3% of the transaction amount.
- Surcharges can be imposed **on credit card transactions only, not on purchases made with debit cards or prepaid cards.**
- Merchants must disclose the credit card surcharge clearly—at the store entrance and the point of sale or on the homepage if the merchant does business on the Internet.
- The disclosure must include the amount of the surcharge, the fact that the fee is being charged by the merchant, and that the fee does not exceed the merchant’s cost to accept credit cards.
- The dollar amount of the surcharge must appear on the transaction receipt.

Merchants are not allowed to impose a credit card surcharge in California, Colorado, Connecticut, Florida, Kansas, Maine, Massachusetts, New York, Oklahoma or Texas, where such fees are prohibited under state law.

For more information go to www.knowyourcard.org

SUBTOTAL	100.00
SURCHARGE	2.00
TOTAL	102.00
=====	
AMOUNT TENDERED	
USA	102.00
ACCT: ***** 1234	
EXP: *****	
APPROVAL: 999999	
CARDHOLDER: JANE SMITH	
TOTAL PAYMENT	102.00