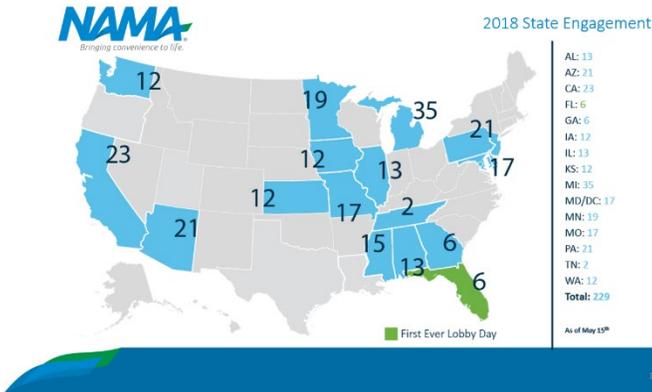




2018 Advocacy Successes

A Snapshot

2018's advocacy efforts continued the trend of increased support and engagement by NAMA members. I wanted to update you on a few of the notable advocacy successes NAMA members' participation have created at state, local and federal government levels.



State Convenience Services Days: NAMA state councils hosted 15 State Convenience Services Days across the United States where nearly 230 NAMA members met face to face with leaders in their State Capitols. These events along with other NAMA advocacy throughout the year resulted in multiple victories for the industry. NAMA Micro Market Model Legislation was adopted in several states, the proposed tethered bottle cap legislation in California was defeated, and many burdensome state regulations were defeated or delayed.

DC Fly-In: In July, NAMA hosted its Annual Fly-in where NAMA members descended on Washington D.C. to engage Members of Congress on the economic impact of the industry, calorie disclosure, and commercialization of rest areas. More than 250 NAMA members from thirty-six states attended the Fly-in, which consisted of 230 meeting with Congressional offices. Among many successes NAMA enjoyed at the federal level were the delay of the EPA refrigerant transition date, extension of the nutrition facts panel revision, and federal tax reform.



Public Policy Conference: 2018 culminated in the completion of NAMA's arguably most successful ever Public Policy Conference, where members of the NAMA Board of Directors engaged with high ranking officials at six federal agencies during five meetings, all of which have a significant impact on the convenience services industry. Synopsis of results from each meeting are below.



Food and Drug Administration: Indicated a desire to assist in finalizing micro market definition in the US Food Code in the near future, helping streamline micro market regulations in all fifty states and protecting the industry from over-regulation. FDA also indicated a willingness to continue efforts to provide clarity and flexibility for calorie disclosure for food sold from vending machines.



Department of Transportation: Outlined priorities to assist in truck driver shortage that include recruiting more CDL drivers through a pilot project for military members ages 18-21 as well as pro-active outreach to female truck drivers. These efforts could relieve the driver shortage many NAMA members face. Hours of Service rules impacting NAMA members were also discussed.



U.S. Mint: Attendees met with the new director of the Mint as well as senior level staff members. The Mint is still interested in finding solutions to create coins at a lower cost and wants to continue the positive working relationship with NAMA to ensure there is no disruption caused to the industry with any changes made to the metallic content of coins.



Department of Labor: Members of the agency updated NAMA on the process of the overtime regulations which was suspended in 2016, as well as updated guidelines allowing workplace safety incentives and drug testing.



Environmental Protection Agency and the Department of Energy: ENERGY STAR program and refrigerant transition program leadership, as well as the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Energy Efficiency at the Department of Energy were updated on challenges presented by the California refrigerant transition as well as newly proposed ENERGY STAR guidelines.

These advocacy successes wouldn't be possible without your steadfast support. Members who took time from their daily lives to attend their State Convenience Services Day, the DC Fly-in, or the Public Policy Conference, are the reason that NAMA has been able to make a positive difference for thousands of businesses and hundreds of thousands of working Americans. Thank you for your continued support of NAMA's advocacy efforts.