



## May Advocacy Roundup



Register today for the expanded 2019 NAMA Fly-in and Advocacy Summit  
July 15-17, 2019

[Register for the Fly-In Today](#)



May held several developments for NAMA's Government Affairs team. With the expanded Fly-in and Advocacy Summit less than two months away, NAMA has been busy planning a highly engaging and valuable member experience. The Fly-In and Advocacy Summit would not be possible without your participation, [please register today!](#) Below are some highlights from NAMA's advocacy work in May.

## Federal Issues:

### [ENERGY STAR](#)

NAMA continues to work with the ENERGY STAR to provide feedback on new proposed specifications for vending machines. Because ENERGY STAR equipment is required for federal government buildings, this standard will have a direct impact on which machines can be placed in such locations. Throughout the month of May, NAMA's direct engagement with ENERGY STAR has resulted in a 40% increase in the number of machines that would be eligible for the program since before engagement. NAMA will continue communicating with ENERGY STAR to make sure the standard is applicable to the industry.

[Click here](#) to read NAMA's comments

[Click here](#) for more information on the proposed specifications

### [Rest Area Commercialization](#)

NAMA is working with a coalition of over a dozen groups to oppose efforts to commercialize highway rest areas, which would be harmful to the many operators who operate vending on our nation's highways. Last month, coalition members met with several congressional offices to gain support for this issue and educate Members of Congress who has voiced support for commercialization in the past.

## State Issues:

### [Alabama](#)

The Alabama Vending Association (AVA) held its annual State Convenience Services Day at the Capitol in Montgomery. Members met with dozens of Alabama legislators, delivered product bags to offices, and held a reception with elected officials and regulators.



## California

California Automatic Vendors Council (CAVC) held its annual convenience services day in May. CVAC Members meet with over 20 legislative offices to discuss several bills of concern to the industry including a Senate bill that will require health warning labels on sugar sweetened beverages, and a bill in the Assembly that would prohibit couponing and discounts on sugar sweetened beverages. CVAC also delivered snack bags to 118 Assemble and Senate offices.

Thanks to their efforts, the Assembly couponing bill failed to get the votes needed to pass. Unfortunately, the warning label bill was narrowly voted out of the Senate. CAVC continues to speak out in opposition as the bill moves to the Assembly Health Committee.



## Illinois

The Illinois Automatic Merchandising Council (IAMC) held its annual State Convenience Services Day at the State Capitol in Springfield. Members delivered product sample bags to every member of the Illinois Legislature. Members were also able to meet with NAMA member State Rep. Andrew Chesney, of Seaga.



### Kansas

Mid America Automatic Merchandising Association (MAMA) members in Kansas were successful in amending a bill to reduce the tax on food and food ingredients including bottled water, candy, food sold through vending machines and soft drinks. The bill passed both houses but was unfortunately vetoed by the governor due to other tax provisions included in the bill. MAMA and NAMA will continue to work towards enactment of the language.

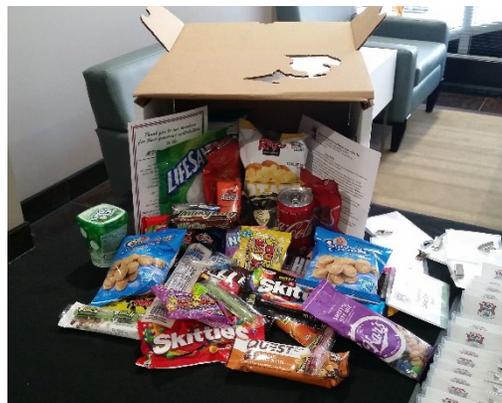
### Massachusetts

A bill was proposed in Massachusetts that will require all vending operators to stock 75% “healthy” items in vending machines on state property over a four-year period. Acceptable products would be determined by the state health commissioner. NAMA opposes the bill and will be working with the Massachusetts Vending Association to ensure its defeat.

### Michigan

The Michigan Distributors and Vendors Association (MDVA) held its annual day at the Capitol. Members delivered certificates to each office redeemable for a box of candy and snack products at its legislative lunch. Over eighty percent of legislators came to redeem their coupon, stating that the MDVA day is a highlight of legislative session.

Additionally, NAMA worked with MDVA to oppose proposed legislation mandating retailers to accept cash payments, potentially stifling innovation in the micro market and unattended retail space. Thanks in part to the efforts of NAMA and MDVA, the bill is expected to die this session.



### Minnesota

Minnesota Automatic Merchandising Council (MAMC) lobbied this year to include a provision in the tax bill that would prohibit local units of government from imposing a food or beverage tax. The language was supported by a broad coalition of interests (National Grocers Association, American Beverage Association, AgriGrowth, NFIB, Minnesota Chamber of Commerce, and Minnesota Pork Producers) and had bipartisan legislative support. The provision was included in the Senate bill but unfortunately not in the House text. The coalition will continue its efforts during the next legislative session.

### Washington

NAMA and the Northwest Automatic Vending Association (NAVA) are working with the Washington Department of Ecology on an emergency clause to extend the compliance date for new refrigerants in vending machines. The rule will allow the vending industry time to resolve the issues with the use of alternative refrigerants, including changes to ASHRAE and UL standards.

### Wisconsin

A bill has been introduced in Wisconsin to prohibit pre-inspection licensing fees for micro markets. This would ensure a streamlined process for defining micro markets and eliminate the risk of onerous application fees. NAMA will continue tracking the bill and urging its passage.

## **Don't Forget to Register!**



**REGISTER TODAY FOR THE 2019 FLY IN & ADVOCACY SUMMIT**  
**JULY 15-17, WASHINGTON, D.C.**

## **Record Number of Convenience Services Days at State Capitols:**

NAMA has already held nearly 20 convenience services days in 2019. Due to the increased efforts by advocacy organizations at the state level, NAMA encourages members and state councils to remain involved in state advocacy efforts. [You can review lobby day dates and register here.](#)

Thank you for actively participating in the industry's advocacy efforts. Advocacy successes are not possible without your active participation.

## **Questions or Concerns?**

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