



## January 2019 Advocacy Roundup

This Month's Edition Presented by

*The Coca-Cola Company*

**Register today to participate in your state convenience services lobby day**

**[Register for your state today!](#)**

NAMA's government affairs division has had a busy and productive start to 2019! Issues impacting various parts of the industry have surfaced in states and localities across the country, as well as at the federal level in Washington, DC. Below is a wrap-up of the hot-button issues that NAMA's GA team is currently managing. A primary focus is State Convenience Services Lobby Days.

### **Federal Issues**

The Federal government shutdown slowed down much of the agency and congressional action that NAMA has been monitoring. However, the government is re-open and NAMA's work on important issues is moving forward.

#### **ENERGYSTAR**

ENERGY STAR introduced proposed specifications for new vending machines on December 27<sup>th</sup>. Due to the government shutdown, NAMA has requested an extension to file comments on these proposed specifications. NAMA expects ENERGY STAR to grant our request. The specification, data, and comment matrix are available again for stakeholder review through the vending product development page, located [here](#).

#### **Food and Drug Administration and Micro Markets**

NAMA continues to lead efforts with the U.S. Food and Drug Administration to integrate a definition of Micro Markets into the Federal Food Code. This will allow national uniformity and federal pre-emption for market operators and would create an easier process for adding Micro Markets to the state level food codes. NAMA's meeting with FDA staff was postponed due to the government shutdown. We have requested to reschedule as soon as possible.

### Department of Labor

NAMA has met with the Department of Labor concerning updates to the federal overtime rule. NAMA expects an update to the rule that was suspended by the courts, and a more reasonable increase in the salary threshold for overtime exempt employees. NAMA has also filed comments in support of proposed Department of Labor policy that would expand access to Association Retirement Plans, meaning the potential for increased access to retirement savings for small business employees and sole proprietors. [You can view those comments here.](#)

### Department of Transportation

NAMA has filed comments supporting changes to the hours of service rules for commercial truckers and is committed to working across multiple industries to support ending the commercial driver shortage. [You can access NAMA's comments here.](#)

## State Issues

### California

**Plastics and Sustainability Issues** - A bill has been introduced in California that would require electronic receipts only for sales of food, alcohol or other tangible personal property unless the customer requests a paper receipt. The California council (CAVC) will be monitoring this bill for its impact on vending and micro markets. There is also a bill that has been filed to reduce the amount of single-use plastic waste. We will be tracking this for its impact on the convenience services industry.

### Maryland

**State Convenience Services Day:** The Maryland State Council held the first State Convenience Services Day of the year on January 29. NAMA Members interacted with legislators from across the state to thank them for passing the Micro Markets bill last year. The state council is tracking several bills pertaining to nutrition and labor laws.



Photos: Maryland-DC Vending Association members attending the first state lobby day of 2019

### **Massachusetts**

**Plastics and Sustainability Issues:** There are several plastic ban bills being introduced in Massachusetts that NAMA will be monitoring in partnership with aligned industries.

### **Mississippi**

**Micro Market Legislation Introduced:** The Mississippi State Council (MAMA) has introduced a Micro Market definitions bill similar to the many that were passed last year. NAMA is working with the state council to obtain passage as quickly as possible.

### **Missouri**

**Tax Issues:** There is the potential of the Streamlines Sales Tax being reintroduced, which NAMA is following closely. NAMA will work with the state council (MAMA) to monitor these bills and insert language to protect the favorable tax treatment of the vending industry that is currently in statute.

### **New York**

**Sugar-Sweetened Beverage Legislation:** Legislation has been introduced to require a health warning label on all sugar sweetened beverages and on equipment that serves them, including vending machines. NAMA is working in partnership with the New York State Council (NYSAVA) and the American Beverage Association to oppose this measure.

### **Oklahoma**

**Micro Market Legislation Introduced:** NAMA and the Oklahoma Vending Council have partnered to introduce legislation that will define Micro Markets and establish guidelines for the state, saving operators from overly burdensome fees and regulation. The legislation aims to define micro markets and set a fee that the Health Department can charge for Micro Markets licensed in the state.

### **Pennsylvania**

**Micro Market Legislation Introduced:** NAMA and the Tri-State Vending Association are working together to introduce a Micro Market Definitions bill similar to the many that were passed last year. NAMA will be vigorously advocating for the passage of this measure once introduced.

### **Texas**

**Vending Sales Restrictions:** Legislation has been introduced to mandate vending restrictions on state owned or leased property. The Texas State Council (TMVA) and NAMA will be working to track and potentially oppose this legislation.

**Washington**

**Vending Machine Refrigeration:** Legislation has been introduced designed to reduce emissions of hydrofluorocarbons, which impacts refrigerants. NAMA’s efforts with equipment manufacturers at the national level will be helpful in working with the Northwest Automatic Vending Association (NAVA). NAVA will be engaged to determine the impact that this legislation would have on the vending industry.



The 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Fly-In is scheduled for July 16-17, 2019. Registration details will be announced soon. We look forward to seeing you in DC in July.

[Check out last year’s Fly-In video here!](#)

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

NAMA is proud to announce that over 20 state convenience service days are booked for 2019 with more on the way! Grassroots efforts continue to expand at state capitols across the country with additional state councils visiting legislators and statewide officials at their capitols. 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 and increase them. Below is a list of upcoming convenience services days.

<b>2019 State Lobby Days</b>	
<b>State</b>	<b>Date</b>
<b>Alabama</b>	<b>3/13/2019</b>
<b>Arizona</b>	<b>4/3/2019</b>
<b>Arkansas</b>	<b>TBD</b>
<b>California</b>	<b>5/14/2018</b>
<b>Colorado</b>	<b>TBD</b>
<b>Connecticut</b>	<b>TBD</b>
<b>Florida</b>	<b>3/19/2019</b>
<b>Georgia</b>	<b>2/6/2019</b>

<b>Illinois</b>	<b>TBD</b>
<b>Iowa</b>	<b>2/13/2019</b>
<b>Kansas</b>	<b>3/6/2019</b>
<b>Kentucky</b>	<b>TBD</b>
<b>Louisiana</b>	<b>TBD</b>
<b>Maine</b>	<b>3/4/2019</b>
<b>Maryland</b>	<b>1/29/2019</b>
<b>Massachusetts</b>	<b>TBD</b>
<b>Michigan</b>	<b>5/17/2019</b>
<b>Minnesota</b>	<b>2/6/2019</b>
<b>Mississippi</b>	<b>TBD</b>
<b>Missouri</b>	<b>3/5/2019</b>
<b>New Jersey</b>	<b>TBD</b>
<b>New York</b>	<b>TBD</b>
<b>North Carolina</b>	<b>TBD</b>
<b>Ohio</b>	<b>3/28/2019</b>
<b>Oklahoma</b>	<b>TBD</b>
<b>Oregon</b>	<b>4/16/2018</b>
<b>Pennsylvania</b>	<b>5/7/2019</b>
<b>Tennessee</b>	<b>2/26/2019</b>
<b>Texas</b>	<b>3/20/2019</b>
<b>Virginia</b>	<b>2/8/2019</b>
<b>Washington</b>	<b>3/26/2019</b>
<b>West Virginia</b>	<b>3/5/2019</b>

Thank you for actively participating in the industry's advocacy efforts. Advocacy successes are not possible without your active participation. Should you have questions about the Government Affairs Division and our advocacy efforts, please do not hesitate to contact us.

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