

March 5, 2021

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Speaker of the House
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Charles Schumer
Majority Leader
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy
Minority Leader
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Minority Leader
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510

RE: Support of the Coin Metal Modification Authorization and Cost Savings Act of 2021

Dear Speaker Pelosi, Leader McCarthy, Leader Schumer, and Leader McConnell:

On behalf of the undersigned organizations, we write in support of the Coin Metal Modification Authorization and Cost Savings Act of 2021, introduced by Sens. Maggie Hassan (D-NH) and Joni Ernst (R-IA) and Representatives Mark Amodei (R-NV) and Josh Gottheimer (D-NJ).

As you are aware, the House Report language to the Financial Services and General Government Appropriations Bill for Fiscal Year 2021 (House Report 116-456) recently expressed the Appropriations Committee's support for *"changes to the metal content of coins if it reduces costs incurred by the U.S. taxpayers, allows coins to work interchangeably in most coin acceptors, and has a minimal adverse impact on the public and stakeholders."* The Coin Metal Modification Authorization and Cost Savings Act of 2021 would provide the authorization for metal content of coins to be changed under specific requirements, including the guarantee that any proposed changes interact seamlessly with the current coin reading technologies being utilized in our industries.

This is an issue of utmost importance to our industries, which rely on smooth transactions for millions of U.S. consumers at vending machines, laundry machines, registers, and coins sorters throughout the retail community around the country. It is critical that any coin metal compositions proposed by the U.S. Mint do not require modification of machines, whether they use electromagnetic signature ore weight and diameter technology. Such a drastic change would impose significant and unnecessary financial burdens on millions of small businesses.

Any legislation granting greater flexibility to the U.S. Mint for new coin metal compositions should 1) ensure that there is a sufficient level of industry stakeholder engagement as the U.S. Mint studies new compositions 2) be a strong definition of a "seamless" transition for new coin metal compositions into the marketplace.

The language included in the Act, which the bill's sponsors solicited feedback from industry stakeholders on prior to introduction, strikes the right balance in this regard. It was because of this balance that H.R. 7995, the Coin Metal Modification Authorization & Cost Savings Act of 2020, overwhelmingly passed the House of Representatives with bipartisan support.

We thank Senators Hassan and Ernst, and Congressmen Amodei and Gottheimer, for working with our industries in reintroducing this important legislation. Support of the Coin Metal Modification Authorization and Cost Savings Act of 2021 strike the right balance of providing the U.S. Mint with the flexibility that it needs to save taxpayer dollars while avoiding future supply disruptions, ensuring that any new coins work without interruption in the existing coin acceptance infrastructure and preventing negative economic impact on our industries.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact Robert Jackson with the National Automatic Merchandising Association (NAMA) at rjackson@namanow.org.

Sincerely,



Coin Laundry Association (CLA) is a national association representing the owners of laundromats, the wholesale distributors who market washers and dryers – and well as the manufacturers of commercial laundry equipment. The industry generates \$5 billion in annual sales and is comprised of 29,500 stores who serve tens of millions of families each week. This essential business provides communities with the necessity of clean clothes in a reliable, safe and convenient environment. www.coinlaundry.org



As the food industry association, FMI works with and on behalf of the entire industry to advance a safer, healthier and more efficient consumer food supply chain. FMI brings together a wide range of members across the value chain — from retailers that sell to consumers, to producers that supply food and other products, as well as the wide variety of companies providing critical services — to amplify the collective work of the industry. www.FMI.org



NACS, the leading global trade association dedicated to advancing convenience and fuel retailing, serves as a trusted advisor to over 1,900 retailer and 1,800 supplier members from more than 50 countries. Convenience stores serve 165 million customers daily – half of the U.S. population – in their 150,274 locations. www.convenience.org



Founded in 1936, NAMA represents the \$31 Billion United States convenience services industry, with its core membership being comprised of owners and operators of vending machines, micro markets, office coffee/tea/water, and pantry services providers. With nearly 1,000-member companies – including many of the world’s most recognized brands – NAMA provides advocacy, education, research, and business forums for its membership. www.namanow.org



NATSO, Representing America’s Travel Plazas and Truckstops currently represents more than 3,000 travel plazas and truck stops nationwide, comprised of both national chains and small, independent locations. Every travel center location is located in close proximity to an Interstate highway and includes multiple profit centers, from motor fuel sales and auto-repair and supply shops, to hotels, sit-down restaurants, quick-service restaurants, food courts, and convenience stores. www.natso.com