

COVID-19: Wednesday, 4-22 Update

In an effort to help you stay informed on the federal, state, and local developments regarding COVID-19, CFCFA will be sending updates summarizing the highlights of responses from levels of government. **Please feel free to send this update to colleagues, employees, or anyone you wish to keep up to date on these pressing matters.**

Bill Seeks Tax Relief for C-Store, Grocery Workers

From NACS

A bipartisan pair of lawmakers from Pennsylvania yesterday introduced legislation which would exempt the wages earned by frontline workers in the convenience and grocery industry, and their suppliers, from federal income tax in 2020.

The Giving Retailers and Our Convenience Employees Relief Act (GROCER Act), introduced by representatives G.T. Thompson (R-PA) and Dwight Evans (D-PA), would exempt the wages earned between February 15, 2020, and June 15, 2020, by many of the heroes who are keeping America running during this crisis from being calculated into adjusted gross income for federal income tax purposes. Should this proposal become law, it would immediately provide additional take-home pay for these frontline workers via adjusting their withholdings.

“Convenience store associates are indeed on the front line of the COVID-19 crisis in every community around the country by providing the food, fuel and necessities required by their customers,” said Henry Armour, CEO, NACS. “The relief provided by the GROCER Act is a welcome response to these heroes who have continued to serve their communities.”

The exact timing of when Congress will finalize a new stimulus package remains unclear. Neither chamber is expected to be back in session until May, but that date may be pushed back.

[Read More Here](#)

CFCFA Secures Vendor for Fabric Face Masks

CFCFA has recently secured a vendor for fabric facial coverings.

As part of a number of county orders, retailers are required to provide their employees with face masks if they interact with customers.

A huge issue with this is that a number of retailers are experiencing is that vendors nationwide are experiencing shortages and members have expressed that they are unable to secure reliable sources for masks.

As of today, CFCA has entered a partnership with Simple Fabric Masks, a provider of, as their name implies, Simple Fabric Masks.

Click the link below to access their online store.

[Read More Here.](#)

ICYMI: California Forms Task Force to Jump-Start Economy

From Reuters

California Governor Gavin Newsom tapped business and political leaders including Arnold Schwarzenegger and billionaire Tom Steyer to help jump-start an economy ravaged by the new coronavirus as the state's daily death toll hit an all-time high on Friday.

The governor's 80-person economics task force would work "in real time" to make recommendations on ways to pump up the economy in the most populous U.S. state once restrictions aimed at curbing the spread of the outbreak start to lift.

Sweeping stay-at-home orders in 42 U.S. states have shuttered businesses, disrupted lives and decimated the national economy, and some protesters have begun taking to the streets to urge governors to rethink the restrictions.

Steyer, a former hedge fund manager and one-time candidate for the Democratic Party's presidential nomination, will co-chair the group, which includes former Federal Reserve Chair Janet Yellen and Walt Disney Co. Chairman Robert Iger, as well as Schwarzenegger and the other three living former California governors, both Democrat and Republican.

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