



Wisconsin Grocers Association

2023-2024 Legislative Agenda

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Taxes, Fee Increases: The WGA SUPPORTS tax equity that ensures fairness between entities and/or products, like the repeal of personal property tax. The WGA reserves the right to individually evaluate modifications to existing taxes. Historically, the WGA OPPOSES new financial increases whether a tax increase or a program fee increase.

Alcohol: The WGA SUPPORTS efforts to allow grocers to deliver alcohol to their customers and provide alcohol with online/pick-up orders. WGA SUPPORTS changing select credit terms for beer. The WGA SUPPORTS the 3-tier liquor distribution system and laws that allow retailers to meet their customers' needs in the changing marketplace.

Retail Theft/Public Safety: The WGA SUPPORTS initiatives that strengthen laws to prevent retail theft that have negative dramatic effects on grocers and convenience stores. WGA SUPPORTS law enforcement and encourages legislation that will provide the responsible dissemination of information to prevent criminal activity.

Credit Card Fees on Sales Tax: Credit Card/Bank fees continue to rise and have become one of the biggest variable expenses for retailers. The WGA SUPPORTS efforts that would prohibit credit card fees on taxes or other ways of making the retailer whole such as increasing the retailers discount for sales tax collection.

Unfair Sales Act: The WGA SUPPORTS the Unfair Sales Act which includes a minimum mark-up on gasoline, alcohol and tobacco products and prohibits below cost sales of other products sold at retail. PLEASE DO NOT REPEAL!

FoodShare/Government Benefits: The WGA SUPPORTS efforts aimed at decreasing fraud, reducing dependency, and limiting government spending on programs that provide food to low-income Americans. The WGA OPPOSES benefit reforms which place additional and burdensome regulations on the retail food industry.

Workers Compensation: WGA SUPPORTS reforming Wisconsin's Worker Compensation program to lower costs for employers, increasing administrative efficiencies, and allowing employers more control.

Electric Vehicles: The WGA SUPPORTS initiatives aimed at ensuring the private sector has the ability to participate in the electric vehicle charging station marketplace.

Workforce: The WGA SUPPORTS initiatives that will place Wisconsin at an advantage to attract, retain, and train a workforce who is confident and engaged in a dynamic economy. This includes quality of life issues (ex: childcare).

This list is not an all-inclusive list of issues of concern to the Wisconsin Grocers Association but represents the guiding principles for major issues that will be discussed during the legislative session.

The Wisconsin Grocers Association represents nearly 500 independent grocers, retail grocery chain stores, warehouses and distributors, convenience stores, food brokers and suppliers. Wisconsin grocers employ over 30,000 people with over \$1 billion in payroll and generate more than \$12 billion in annual sales in Wisconsin resulting in approximately \$800 million in state sales tax revenue. (Data provided by The Food Institute).