



GOVERNMENT RELATIONS UPDATE

ADVOCATING FOR MINNESOTA'S HOSPITALITY INDUSTRY

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By Hanna Zinn • Feb 21, 2025

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Good afternoon and happy Friday! I hope you all have stayed safe and warm following this week's freezing weather. This week's edition of HM's Government Relations Update focuses on bills we are watching, and what they mean for our members.

Day at the Capitol Reminder: Registration for [Day at the Capitol](#) closes on next Wednesday, February 26.

- [Register here](#) while there are still spots available!

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Session Snapshot



The big picture: Hospitality Minnesota has a wide range of policies we watch throughout the legislative session. Everything from environmental regulation, labor relations, employment policies, and alcohol and cannabis management can make our watchlist on any given day. I am taking time this week to breakdown a few of the biggest issues we are tracking.

Go deeper: As of writing this update, the Senate has introduced 1,750 bills, and the House has introduced 1,331 bills. And yes, I have personally read most, if not all, of them. While not all these bills have direct ties to the hospitality industry, a few key bills do.

- [SF 993 / HF 961](#) – Hospitality Education ProStart Program Funding – HM is asking for \$500,000 over the next biennium to fund ProStart programs across the state.
- [SF 34 / HF 859](#) – Food Service Capital Equipment Sales Tax Exemption – This bill would exempt foodservice businesses from the state and local sales tax on capital equipment used to produce taxable meals.
- [HF 11](#) – Delay in Implementation of Paid Family Medical Leave (PFML) by 1 Year – HM supports this bill asking for a delay in implementation of PFML by one year to allow for further testing, conversation, and policy modifications to the law.
- [SF 1182](#) – Statewide Social Districts – HM is the leading partner in authorizing local governments to implement social districts. These districts have been authorized in Anoka, Shakopee, and Stillwater, and this bill would allow local units of government across the state to implement them.

What's next: The full budget forecast is expected to be released on March 6th, setting up lawmakers for hard conversations when creating the state's budget. These budget targets will determine how, and where, state money will be spent over the next 2 years. Committees in the coming weeks will hear bills focused on funding requests, policy revisions, and more presentations from state agencies on their budget requests.

- **Yes, and:** The House election on March 11 is expected to restore the balance to 67-67, meaning committees will be tied as well. While the power sharing agreement will expire soon after, unanswered questions remain about how committees will run, who will hold the gavel on what days, and how that will impact what bills are heard.
- **One fun thing:** Hospitality Minnesota has been committed to finding bipartisan solutions to our policies. Most bills we champion are authored across the aisle, in both chambers.

RSVP Before Wednesday: Hospitality Minnesota Day at the Capitol 2025



Calling all advocates: With only a few spots remaining, the deadline to register for our [2025 Day at the Capitol](#) is rapidly approaching this Wednesday, February 26, 2025.

Why it matters: With a lot at stake in a historic and unprecedented legislative session, we need your perspective now more than ever in Saint Paul.

- **Your voice matters:** Our efforts are best championed by our owners and operators. Having your perspective and participation in conversations with legislators is critical to getting our legislative agenda across the finish line.

Act now: This event sold out in record time last year, we recommend those interested to register before we sell out.

[Register Here!](#)

Register for Other National Advocacy Opportunities



Did you know: Registration is still open for both the [National Restaurant Association's Public Affairs Conference](#) (April 1-3) and the [American Hotel and Lodging Association's Hotels on the Hill](#) (May 13-14).

- **Act now:** Early-bird pricing for the NRA's [Public Affairs Conference](#) ends February 28!
- **Questions?** Reach out to [Hanna](#) for more information.

Thank you reading! Check out past [GR Updates](#) here.

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