



Member Update

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By Tony Burton • Jan 29, 2024

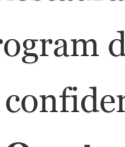
Smart Brevity® count: 3.5 mins...944 words

In today's January 29, 2024 Update:

- Restaurant Ready Set to Launch in Minnesota
- Join Us for Coffee & Connections
- Protecting Your Customers and Your Liquor License
- Register for Day at the Capitol
- Attend the Office of Cannabis Management's Implementation Webinar
- Expo Exhibitor Registration Open
- In the News

We would like to thank our Member Update Sponsor - [Ecolab](#) - for their contributions and commitment to Minnesota's hospitality industry!

Restaurant Ready Set to Launch in Minnesota



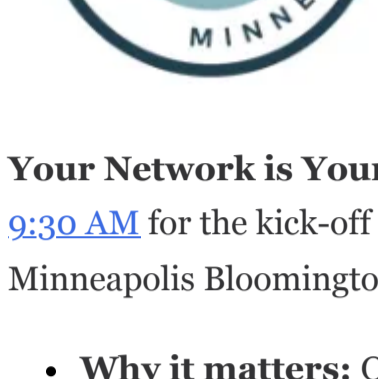
Restaurant Ready

What is Restaurant Ready? Restaurant Ready is a National Restaurant Association (NRA) program dedicated to helping participants acquire the skills, discipline, and confidence necessary to start and stay employed in a hospitality career. **Our team plans to launch it in Minnesota.**

- **Why it matters:** Through partnerships with community-based organizations, such as [CAPI USA](#), the program connects members to a more diverse talent pool including immigrants, refugees, workers with disabilities, community members with language barriers, and more.

Go deeper: If you're an owner/operator interested in participating in the restaurant-ready program at your restaurant or hotel, reach out to [Victoria](#).

Join us for Coffee & Connections



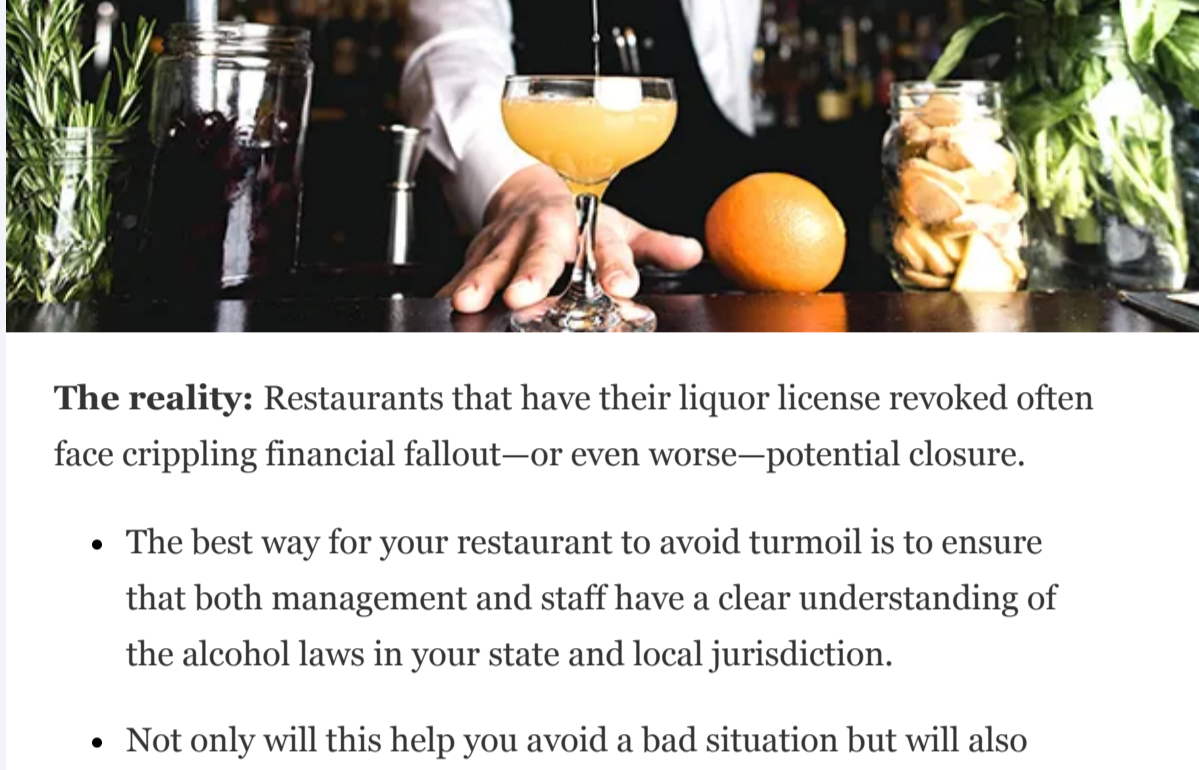
COFFEE & CONNECTIONS

Your Network is Your Net Worth: Join us on [February 23 from 8 - 9:30 AM](#) for the kick-off of our Coffee & Connections series at the Hilton Minneapolis Bloomington.

- **Why it matters:** Our industry thrives on connection. These events are designed to provide an opportunity to network and exchange ideas with industry professionals.

[Register here.](#) The event is open to anyone who works in or with hospitality.

Protecting Your Customers and Your Liquor License



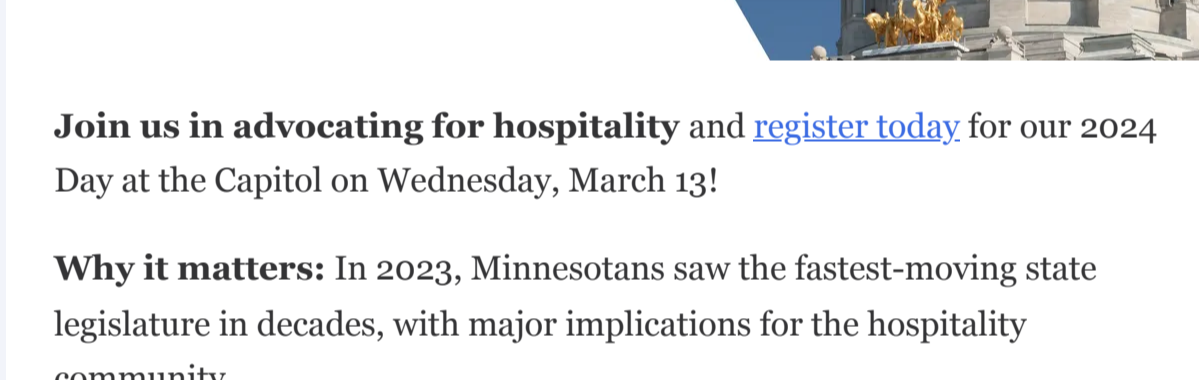
The reality: Restaurants that have their liquor license revoked often face crippling financial fallout—or even worse—potential closure.

- The best way for your restaurant to avoid turmoil is to ensure that both management and staff have a clear understanding of the alcohol laws in your state and local jurisdiction.
- Not only will this help you avoid a bad situation but will also allow your business to reap the rewards of safely serving alcohol.

By the numbers: The ability to serve alcohol is a prized right for many restaurant operators. In fact, of the restaurants that hold a liquor, beer, or wine license, research shows that about [30% of revenue comes from alcohol sales alone](#).

- Whether your business is weighing the potential of obtaining a liquor license or is licensed, reviewing your local requirements of compliance is critical.
- **Go deeper:** Start your journey of assuring liquor-related compliance with ServSafe [here](#).

Register for Day at the Capitol



Join us in advocating for hospitality and [register today](#) for our 2024 Day at the Capitol on Wednesday, March 13, 2024!

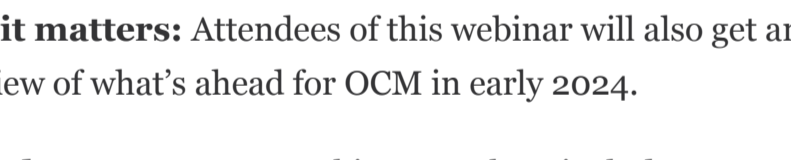
Why it matters: In 2023, Minnesotans saw the fastest-moving state legislature in decades, with major implications for the hospitality community.

- **What we faced:** Noteworthy movements from last session included the passage of Earned Sick and Safe Time, Paid Family Medical Leave, Cannabis legalization, and more.
- **What we accomplished:** Hospitality Minnesota managed to secure funding for our educational programs, a seasonal exemption from Paid Family Medical Leave, a food exemption from the state's new delivery tax, and more.

What's next: In 2024, the work continues, and we need your voice! Join us for Hospitality Minnesota's [Day at the Capitol](#). Our Association depends on the involvement of our members to tell the story of the legislation to our legislators, who will be tweaking many of the bills passed and introduced last session.

- **Join us in advocating for you:** [Registration is now open.](#)

Attend the Office of Cannabis Management's Implementation Webinar



Calling all operators: Join the Office of Cannabis Management (OCM) virtually [tomorrow from 5-6 PM](#) to get an update on their implementation work, rulemaking, community outreach, and more.

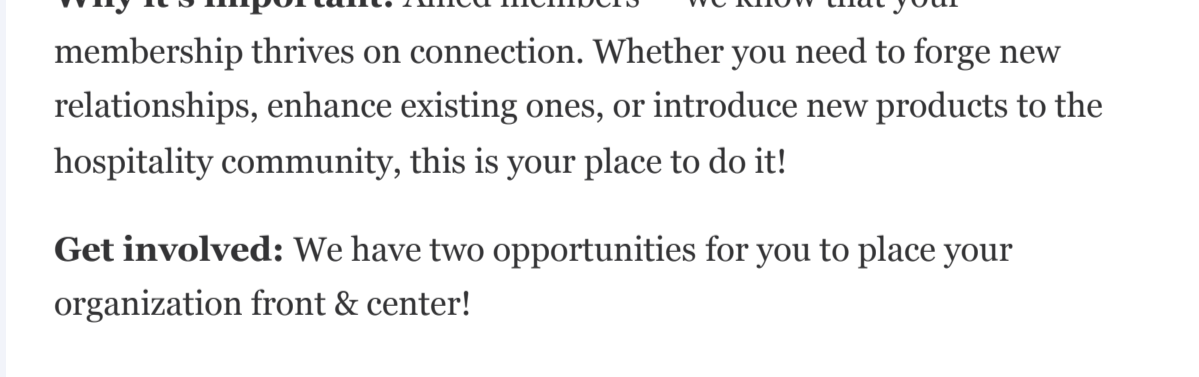
- **Why it matters:** Attendees of this webinar will also get an overview of what's ahead for OCM in early 2024.

What speakers to expect: Webinar speakers include...

- Charlene Briner, Office of Cannabis Management Interim Director
- Vanessa Vogl, Minnesota Department of Human Services Rulemaking Attorney
- Merone Melekin, Office of Cannabis Management Outreach Director

[Attendees can register online.](#) If you can't attend the virtual session on Jan. 30, OCM will post a recording of the meeting on [its website](#) at a later date.

Expo Exhibitor Registration Open



What's new: The Hospitality Minnesota Vendor Expo & Mixer is back! Join us at the St. Paul RiverCentre on Monday, April 8, 2024.

- [Exhibitor/Sponsor Registration](#) is now live.

Why it's important: Allied members — we know that your membership thrives on connection. Whether you need to forge new relationships, enhance existing ones, or introduce new products to the hospitality community, this is your place to do it!

Get involved: We have two opportunities for you to place your organization front & center!

- **Exhibitors:** Grab your spot now to showcase and promote your products and services to hundreds of new potential customers. [Secure your spot today.](#) For more information on becoming an exhibitor, contact [Kristine](#).
- **Sponsorship:** Sponsors receive added exposure and visibility for their organization (which will be well deserved for bringing back this beloved event 😊) as well as an exhibit booth. For more information on pricing, contact [Kate](#) or [Tony](#).

In the News

- [Minnesota's 2024 James Beard Award semifinalists include 5 chefs, 2 businesses](#) | MPR News
- [Will the worker shortage be a "forever" challenge for employers?](#) | Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis
- [Taste of Minnesota festival to return 2024 in downtown Minneapolis](#) | Minneapolis / St. Paul Business Journal
- [Minneapolis hotel occupancy reached pre-pandemic levels last September](#) | Minneapolis / St. Paul Business Journal
- [New at MSP airport: Cibo Food Hall, Tattersall, Yo-Kai Express](#) | Minneapolis / St. Paul Business Journal

See you back here next week!

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