



By Hanna Zinn • Nov 01, 2024

Smart Brevity® count: 3 mins...791 words

Welcome to November! While this Halloween can't compare to the Blizzard of '91, in true Minnesota fashion we experienced what felt like all 4 seasons in one week. Here's hoping November is a little more stable – at least in our weather.

Much like Minnesota weather, the politics of the state and country are up in the air before the election next Tuesday. In this edition I'm breaking down updates on the Minneapolis Labor Standards Board and Junk Fees guidance, election resources, and a reminder about the state constitutional amendment Hospitality Minnesota is encouraging a 'YES' vote on.

Labor Standards Board Update



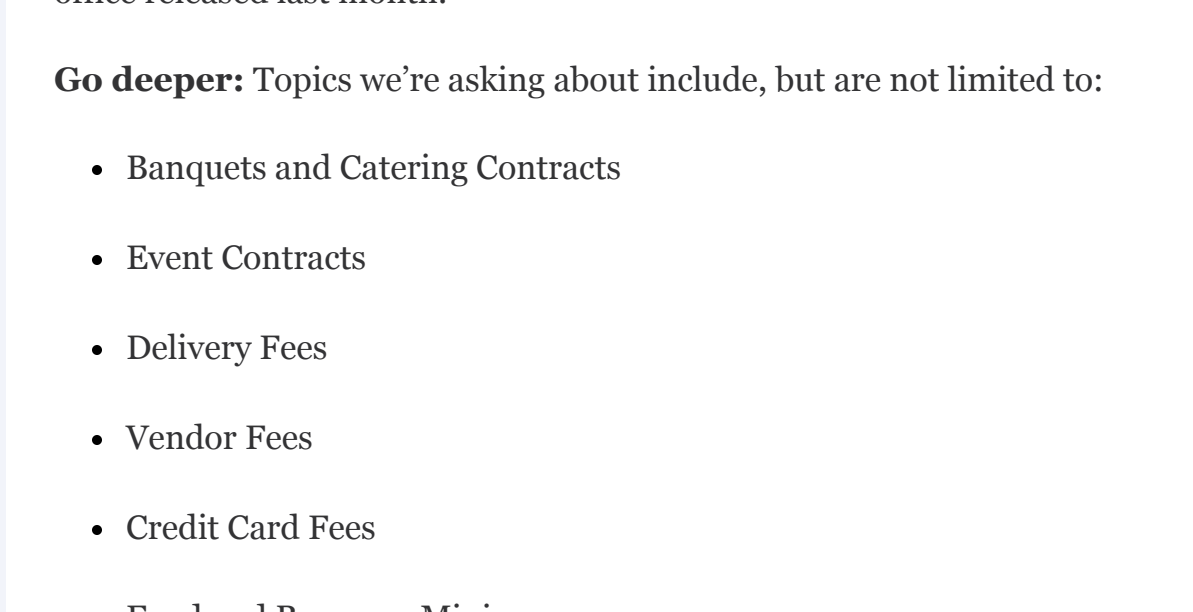
Minneapolis City Hall photographed by Jim Hughes

The big picture: The authors of the Labor Standards Board proposal have promised to bring forward a vote on the resolution before the end of the year. With only two scheduled Public Health and Safety Committee meetings on the public calendar, time is running out.

- **Yes, and:** We expect to see the proposal published for the committee on Monday, November 4th or Monday, November 14th. With no public comment required for this to pass committee, council may decide to pass this following the election next Tuesday.

What's next: Hospitality Minnesota remains engaged in conversations with the council and mayor to ensure hospitality voices are heard. With some of the strongest worker protections in the state, adding a Labor Standards Board is an unnecessary layer of bureaucracy.

Junk Fees Guidance - Open Call for Questions!



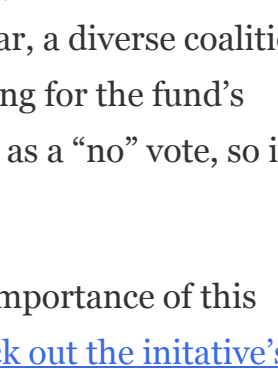
The big picture: Hospitality Minnesota is meeting with the Attorney General's office on Tuesday to discuss topics not covered in [guidance](#) the office released last month.

Go deeper: Topics we're asking about include, but are not limited to:

- Banquets and Catering Contracts
- Event Contracts
- Delivery Fees
- Vendor Fees
- Credit Card Fees
- Food and Beverage Minimums

What's next: We're asking our members who have concerns about the Junk Fees guidance to reach out to Hanna Zinn (hanna@hospitalitymn.com) with a list of questions you'd like us to ask in our meeting. Keep your eyes out for a special GR update next week discussing this conversation.

Vote Tuesday, November 5th to Renew Environmental and Natural Resources Trust Fund!



Vote for Our Great Outdoors! As we approach the November 5th election, it's crucial for Minnesotans to be informed about the Environmental and Natural Resources Trust Fund renewal on the ballot.

By the numbers: Since 1991, this fund has allocated over \$1 billion to more than 1,600 projects, including the beloved "Prairie Sportsman" program. This initiative, which highlights our state's outdoor resources, relies heavily on these funds.

- **Some background:** The last renewal in 1998 saw overwhelming support, with 77% of voters in favor. This year, a diverse coalition, including Hospitality Minnesota, is advocating for the fund's continuation. Remember, a non-vote counts as a "no" vote, so it's vital to cast your ballot.

Make a plan to vote! For more details on the importance of this renewal and how it impacts our community, [check out the initiative's webpage](#). Let's ensure our great outdoors continue to thrive!

Election Resources



Election Day is Tuesday, November 5th! Have a plan to vote? Need one? Check out these resources to make a plan to vote on Election Day!

- [Register to Vote on Election Day](#)
- [Common Registration Questions](#)
- [Find Your Polling Place](#) - polling places are usually open from 7 a.m. - 8 p.m.
- [Check What's on Your Ballot](#)
- [Know Your Rights](#)

By the numbers: Historically, Minnesota has one of the highest voter turnout rates in the country. In 2020, [voter turnout](#) was at almost 80% of all registered voters! Let's keep this Minnesota tradition alive and vote on November 5th!

Latest Updates on Paid Leave

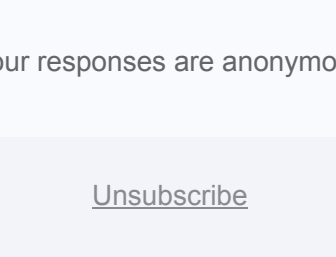


Paid Leave Update: Paid Leave and UI hosted two webinars with Minnesota employers last month.

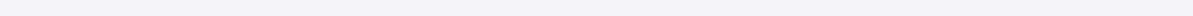
- **What happened:** The webinars hosted more than 2,500 employers who engaged and asked great questions about their roles and responsibilities under Paid Leave.
- **To make things easier for employers,** Paid Leave has partnered with Unemployment Insurance (UI) to use its online portal for collecting wage detail reports starting last month.

What's next: The first important step for employers to prepare for Paid Leave is to review your UI employer account, if you have one, and create a Paid Leave Only account if you need one.

- **Go deeper:** The webinar recordings along with other resources to help employers make Paid Leave work can be found in the Paid Leave [employer toolkit](#).



In the News



- [Beef 'O' Brady's wants restaurants in Buffalo, St. Cloud, Forest Lake](#)
- [Largest ski areas in Minnesota](#)
- [Rare big cat caught on camera in Voyageurs National Park](#)
- [Nordic Village Returns to Four Seasons Hotel Minneapolis](#)

That's all. Have a great week!

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