

## WPMAEXPO®



### **DONATE TO THE SILENT AUCTION!**

The WPMA Scholarship Foundation is seeking fun, unique, and high-quality items valued at \$100 or more for our Silent Auction. Either mail your item to WPMA or let us know what you are bringing.

Please contact Emily Perry at [emilyp@wpma.com](mailto:emilyp@wpma.com) with your donation information or questions regarding Silent Auction donations.



### **BE A GOLF HOLE SPONSOR**

Sponsor a golf hole at the WPMA Scholarship Foundation Golf Tournament.

By sponsoring a golf hole, you'll have a unique opportunity to showcase your company to a diverse audience of participants, and industry professionals. Your support will not only contribute to the success of the event but will also help provide scholarships to the upcoming generation.

\$500 Golf Hole Sponsorship includes one golf registration and sign on tee box

\$350 Golf Hole Sponsorship includes sign on tee box

**[CLICK HERE TO SECURE YOUR GOLF HOLE SPONSORSHIP NOW!](#)**

### **REGISTER NOW! for the WPMAEXPO**

Preregistration for the WPMAEXPO ends **February 2nd.**

**[CLICK HERE to register for the 2024 WPMAEXPO](#)**

The following information provided by:  
**EMA-Energy Marketers of America**



### **EMA Compliance Bulletin: Annual OSHA Workplace Injury and Illness Posting Begins February 1<sup>st</sup>**

The 2023 posting cycle for OSHA's workplace injury and illness reporting rule begins on February 1, 2024, and runs through April 30. The OSHA injury and illness recording and posting requirements apply to most establishments (workplaces) with more than 10 employees. OSHA requires employers to record and post all work-related injuries occurring during the *previous* calendar year. The following list identifies establishments within the petroleum marketing industry and indicates whether the establishment must comply with the OSHA Injury and Illness recording and posting requirements.

**[CLICK HERE TO READ THE EMA COMPLIANCE BULLETIN](#)**

*EMA Contact: Mark S. Morgan, Regulatory Counsel [mmorgan@emamerica.org](mailto:mmorgan@emamerica.org)*

### **Washington Update**

Washington is in the middle of its second snowstorm of the week, but despite concerns about weather hampering Congress's ability to move, yesterday, the Senate passed a Continuing Resolution (CR) to fund the government through the first week in March. The measure passed the Senate by a bipartisan vote of 77 to 18, after which the House passed the legislation under suspension of the rules (314 yeas to 108 nays), relying on Democratic support to reach the required two-thirds vote, after far-right Members' opposition to the bill and Republicans' tiny House majority meant Speaker Johnson could not pass the bill with Republican votes alone. As a result, Congress has avoided another government shutdown and members were able to leave town for recess, leaving only the House Freedom Caucus out in the cold. When members return from recess, Speaker Johnson will have his hands full with angry members of his own party as well as an ever-growing to-do list as the White House and the Senate are pushing to complete a spending package that would include money for securing the border as well as additional funds for Ukraine, Israel, and Taiwan. This will be a heavy lift, but one that will take a lot of oxygen out of Congress's ability to focus on much else given the election cycle this year. Especially as former (and possibly future?) President Trump is urging members of Congress not to "stupidly" give Biden a win on the border.

Despite all that, House Ways and Means Committee Chair Jason Smith (R-MO) and Senate Finance Committee Chair Ron Wyden (D-OR) announced an agreement on a "tax framework" on business tax provisions and the Child Tax Credit. The framework, titled the Tax Relief for American Families and Workers Act of 2024 includes: (1) an expanded Child Tax Credit; (2) extensions of sought-after business tax breaks including the immediate deductibility of Research and Development (R&D) expenses, 100 percent bonus depreciation, and interest deductibility; (3) disaster tax relief for recent natural and man-made disasters, including certain hurricanes, flooding, wildfires, and the Ohio rail disaster; (4) a state housing credit ceiling increase and softens tax-exempt bond financing requirements for the Low-Income Housing Tax Credit program through 2025; (5) an increase in the reporting thresholds for payments; and (6) accelerates termination of the fraud-ridden Employee Retention Tax Credit program. The \$78 billion package would be a major win for House and Senate tax writers, especially in light of the current partisan environment, but before anyone schedules any bill signing ceremonies, Messrs. Smith and Wyden will have to sell it to a majority of their respective chambers.

Across the street, the Supreme Court was weighing a critical matter of Chevron deference, a practice established in a 1984 case whereby it was established courts should defer to an agency's interpretation of a rule so long as the answer was reasonable or justifiable and so long as Congress had not spoken directly to a particular matter. In short, the Chevron ruling gave Federal agencies the ability to regulate industries even if Congress had not expressly passed any law on an issue. For example, the SEC has been able to issue decisions on cryptocurrency despite no Congressional action on the issue—this is largely because of Chevron deference. Further, for the past 40 years, many judicial decisions have been underpinned by the precedents established by Chevron deference. Well, yesterday, the court heard arguments and, many believe, may be considering overturning this practice, which may majorly limit the federal government's ability to issue regulations—like those surrounding EVs—without an express directive from Congress. Many believe the decision will come down to Chief Justice John Roberts and Justice Amy Coney Barrett, who may be

tempted to side with Justices Thomas, Gorsuch, and Kavanaugh to overturn, but who also may be hesitant to move many regulatory decisions from agencies to the courts, as the expectation is an overrule of Chevron would trigger thousands of lawsuits to undo 40 years of precedent. It's worth noting that until recently, this was not a particularly controversial matter, but simply an understanding that sometimes, the government needs to move faster than Congress. It's only recently that many – especially among Republicans – have started calling for it to be overturned. It's likely that, at the very least, the court will tweak the existing rule if not toss it altogether, but we will not know that until the court releases its decisions later this year.

### **House Death Tax Repeal Bill Introduced**

Representatives Randy Feenstra (R-IA) and Sanford Bishop (D-GA) introduced the Death Tax Repeal Act companion bill in the House with over 160 original cosponsors. See their press release [here](#). This number of original cosponsors already exceeds the total cosponsors from last Congress. EMA is looking forward and gearing up for a major tax reform bill next year which will certainly address the estate tax. We will be continuing to promote both the House and Senate bills in order to build as much momentum as possible moving towards the next tax reform effort in 2025.

The Family Business Coalition (FBC) reached a new high water mark this Congress with over 157 groups signing our coalition [support letter](#) and as our new House champion for repeal, Congressman Feenstra has come out of the gates strong with 167 original cosponsors.

### **Continue to Urge Congress to Support the Credit Card Competition Act!**

EMA continues to urge all jobbers and retailers to reach out to their Senators and ask them to VOTE YES on the Credit Card Competition Act. This bill would reduce swipe fees and allow retailers a choice of network to handle the transaction through competition which would save Americans and businesses around \$15 billion in swipe fees per year. Our industry's share of that comes to around \$9,000 per store per year.

**[CLICK HERE TO URGE SENATORS TO SUPPORT THE CREDIT CARD COMPETITION](#)**

### **States Issue HOS Waivers**

Due to severe winter weather, this week new states have issued State of Emergency and Hours of Service waivers for residential and/or transportation fuels. [Click Here](#) for all of FMCSA's Emergency Declarations and State waivers. In addition, Colorado and Kentucky have issued waivers that are not on the FMCSA website. [Click Here](#) for Colorado, and [Click Here](#) for Kentucky.

### **WEEKEND READS**

**[Actor and Boston native Donnie Wahlberg explains the benefits of Bioheat®](#)**

**[Chicago-area Tesla charging stations lined with dead cars in freezing cold: 'A bunch of dead robots out here' | Fox Business](#)**

**[No more going wobbly in climate fight, Trump supporters vow | Politico](#)**

**[FDA Denies Marketing of SMOK E-Cigarette Products | FDA](#)**

**[Supreme Court could reel in power of federal agencies in fights over fishing rule | Yahoo News](#)**

**[Will Incidents in the Red Sea Affect USA Gasoline and Diesel Prices? | RigZone](#)**

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## **Federated Insurance**

**Federated Insurance: Risk Management Corner**

***Everyone is a Risk Manager***



When it comes to risk management at the workplace, each and every person plays an important role in maintaining day-to-day safety to help maintain a solid risk management culture. From the highest executive to the newest hire, everyone should consider being a risk manager at work.

Management should be committed to upholding a culture of safety and risk mitigation across the board, since these examples often stem from the top-down. Employees play an important role too. They are on the front lines making sure work gets done in a safe manner and will be the ones who have the most interaction with potential hazards. Learn more about the responsibilities and considerations of both these groups, please click [here](#)?

Please always feel free to contact your **Federated** regional representative or EMA's National Account Executive **Jon Medo** at 800.533.0472 for any additional information or risk management questions.

*This article is for general information and risk prevention only and should not be considered legal or other expert advice. The recommendations herein may help reduce, but are not guaranteed to eliminate, any or all risk of loss. The information herein may be subject to, and is not a substitute for, any laws or regulations that may apply. Qualified counsel should be sought with questions specific to your circumstances. © 2023 Federated Mutual Insurance Company.*

## **Chevron**

***Using Bio-based Fuels in Cold Weather***

Chevron Renewable Energy Group's recent advances in biofuels and the biodiesel production process were featured in "Biofuels Digest" magazine last month. ["From Patent to Progress: How Myron Danzer and Iowa-based Chevron Renewable Energy Group continue forging new paths in the biofuels industry"](#) included comments from Myron Danzer, executive director of biodiesel projects, and Dr. Martin Haverly, director of research & development and innovation, and focused on how the convergence of Chevron Renewable Energy Group's strategic vision and Iowa's exceptional bioindustry has led to a significant number of renewable fuels on the market.

"We're very excited that Chevron Renewable Energy Group is going to continue to operate out of Ames (Iowa), with a focus on our lower carbon fuels business segment," Danzer said. "Chevron believes the future of energy is lower carbon and one of our aspirations is to have the capacity to profitably produce 100,000 barrels of renewable fuel per day by 2030, and the investments we've made in our Iowa biodiesel production facilities in Newton, Mason City and Ralston are critical in reaching that milestone and helping our clients' reach their carbon emission reduction targets."

For additional information about Chevron, please [visit](#) or contact [Jason Lawrence](#). Chevron Renewable Energy Group is an EMA Executive Committee Council Partner.



The **WPMA NEWS** currently serves EIGHT independent petroleum and convenience store associations.

**CLICK HERE FOR THE CURRENT  
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MAGAZINE**

Interested in a previous *WPMA News* issue? Click [HERE](#).



**EMA JOURNAL - The Official Publication of the Energy Marketers of America**

Check out the EMA Journal anytime online by clicking [here](#).

The EMA Journal fall issue is now available.

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# THANK YOU **WPMAEXPO** 2024 TOP SPONSORS

Presidential

as of January 5, 2024



Premier



Diamond



## PLEASE NOTE UPCOMING DATES FOR WPMA EVENTS

January 30-31, 2024 - Washington WIDE Day on the Hill - Olympia, WA - Please register [here](#).  
February 13, 2024 - Utah UPMRA Day on Capitol Hill - 12:00 - 1:30 pm - Salt Lake City, UT  
February 20-22, 2024 - WPMAEXPO - Mirage/Hard Rock Resort - Las Vegas, NV  
April 1, 2024 - Hawaii (HEMA) Golf Tournament - 11:30 am - Oahu Country Club - Honolulu, HI  
April 25-26, 2024 - Nevada (NPM&CSA) Big Dogs - Red Rock & Siena Golf Course - Las Vegas, NV  
June 4-5, 2024 - Montana (MPMCSA) Convention - Fairmont Hot Springs Resort - Fairmont, MT  
June 17-19, 2024 - Washington Energy Convention - Suncadia Lodge - Cle Elum, WA  
July 14-16, 2024 - Oregon (OFA) Conference - Sunriver Resort - Sunriver, OR  
August 7-9, 2024 - Idaho (IPM&CSA) Convention - Coeur d'Alene Resort, Coeur d'Alene, ID

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## REGISTRATION IS OPEN FOR THE FOLLOWING EVENT

### WPMAEXPO REGISTRATION ENDS FEBRUARY 2



#### WPMAEXPO

Click [here](#) to register for the WPMAEXPO at The Mirage Resort in Las Vegas, Nevada held February 20-22, 2024

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**Petro Pete:** You can't believe everything you hear—but you can repeat it.

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WPMA at: (801) 263-9762, Fax: (801) 262-9413, or e-mail: [kimw@wpma.com](mailto:kimw@wpma.com) Thanks.

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