

February 16, 2024

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Make the most of this unique opportunity to stay informed, connected, and inspired in our ever-evolving industry.

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



EMA Washington Conference and Day on the Hill – May 15-17, 2024: Please Make Your Hotel Reservation and Register Now

EMA's annual Washington Conference and Day on the Hill will be held in Washington, DC from May 15-17 at The Mayflower Hotel. Our industry continues to have many important legislative and regulatory issues to discuss and the Day on the Hill remains the primary focus of this conference for you to meet with your members of Congress and network with other marketers from across the country! Hotel reservations will close by April 23 6:00pm Eastern or when the room block is sold out. Registrations must be received by April 26 to be included in our hotel guarantee.

CLICK HERE TO REGISTER FOR EMA'S DC CONFERENCE

Inside the Beltway Update

This is the last day before members of Congress head home before recess, which isn't a big deal, except when they return, they'll have three legislative days to finalize FY 2024 funding before the government begins to shut down on March 1. Appropriators have been working privately on funding bills, and many are hopeful a shutdown will be averted, but it's a tall order and nobody has seen bill text of any kind at this point. Still, since Congress never turns its homework in early, many believe an agreement can be reached in time. The issue that remains to be seen is whether the agreement can pass in the House and Senate, or will it fall apart like the now-stalled border and foreign aid supplemental. Needless to say, we'll be watching to keep you apprised as things develop.

In other news, U.S. Senate Majority Whip Dick Durbin and Senator Roger Marshall announced Senators Josh Hawley (R-MO) and Jack Reed (D-RI) as new co-sponsors to the Credit Card Competition Act, joining Senators Peter Welch (D-VT) and J.D. Vance (R-OH) in support of the legislation aiming to enhance competition in the credit card network market. Durbin emphasized the growing momentum for credit card market reforms and the pushback from Visa and Mastercard. The bill garners support from various small businesses and consumer groups, including the Merchants Payments Coalition (MPC), which welcomed the new cosponsors. Sen. Reed highlighted the need to address excessive credit card fees, while Durbin called on CEOs of major companies to testify before the Senate Judiciary Committee. Bill Weigel, CEO of Weigel's convenience store chain, urged support for the Act in a letter to the editor.

Meanwhile, a bipartisan group of 40 Senators and Representatives wrote the White House urging it to ensure farmers are included as eligible for any tax credits that exist using the Greenhouse Gases, Regulated Emissions, and Energy Use in Transportation (GREET) standards issued by the Department of Energy. The letter urged the Administration to update the GREET standards to properly credit practices like regenerative farming and carbon capture; ensure valuations of indirect land-use changes recognize contributions of US agriculture; and reward modern practices like precision agriculture that lead to higher per-acre yields. Additionally, members of some pro-ethanol groups, including NACS, NATSO and SIGMA, pushed Sen. Tom Carper (D-DE) to relent in his opposition to year-round E15 sales, noting it is not in sync with his long-espoused views towards sustainability. It is unclear at this time if anything will come from these actions, but EMA will provide updates as needed.

EMA Regulatory Reminder: Driver Hours of Service Requirements

EMA has been asked to provide a review of the FMCSA's CDL Drivers Hours of Service (HOS), including record of duty logs and the short haul exception to the HOS requirements. In recent years, EMA was able to expand hour and distance limitations of short haul exception from 100 air-mile radius and 12 hours maximum on duty time to a 150 air-mile and 14 on-duty hours.

11 Hour Driving Limit

• CDL drivers may drive a maximum of 11 hours per shift after 10 consecutive hours off-duty.

14 Hour On-Duty Limit

• CDL drivers may not drive beyond the 14th consecutive hour after coming on duty, following 10 consecutive hours off duty. Off-duty time does not extend the 14-hour period.

60/70 Hour Weekly Limit

 CDL drivers may not drive after 60 hours on duty in 7 consecutive days or after 70 hours over 8 consecutive days. A driver may restart the 7/8 consecutive day week period after taking 34 or more consecutive hours off duty. Adverse Driving Conditions

 CDL drivers are allowed to extend the 11-hour maximum driving limit and 14-hour on-duty limit by up to two hours each when adverse driving conditions are encountered. Adverse driving conditions are caused by severe weather-related events. The FMCSA defines adverse driving conditions as: "snow, sleet, fog, other adverse weather conditions, a highway covered with snow or ice, or unusual road and traffic conditions, none of which were apparent on the basis of information known to the person dispatching the run at the time it was begun." If any of the conditions described above exist, drivers may continue driving until the intended destination is reached or until they are able to safely reach a secure location, but for no more than two extra hours.

Short Haul Driver Exception

 A CDL driver is exempt from recording hours of service if - the driver operates within a 150-air mile radius of the normal work reporting location, and the driver does not exceed the 14-hour maximum on-duty period. Drivers using the short haul exception must report and return to the normal work reporting location within 14 consecutive hours and stay within a 150 air-mile radius of that location.

Contact Mark S. Morgan, EMA Regulatory Counsel with any questions at mmorgan@emamerica.org.

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.

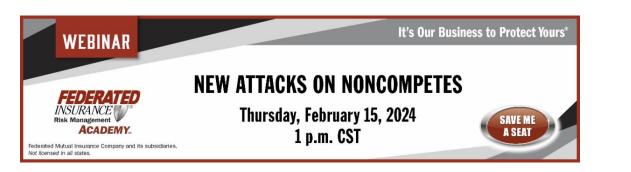
CLICK HERE TO URGE SENATORS TO SUPPORT THE CREDIT CARD COMPETITION

WEEKEND READS The Six Months That Short-Circuited the Electric-Vehicle Revolution

American dynamism: Restoring America's energy dominance | Washington Examiner

AFPM launches seven-figure issue campaign spotlighting gas car ban policies across battleground states | AFPM

FDA Denies Marketing Applications for Flavored blu E-cigarette Products



Federated Insurance: Risk Management Corner Brushing Up on the OSHA Top 10

The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) Top 10 list accounts for the most frequently cited standards following inspections of businesses and



worksites by federal OSHA. This helpful list can be used as a guide to learning what common risks to watch out for and accessing vital information to help avoid devastating — and costly — work injuries or fatalities.

To read the article in its entirety, please click <u>here</u>. Federated Insurance® provides OSHA Top 10 information on mySHIELD®, and offers access to additional resources, such as sample safety programs and training content to help identify and reduce worksite health and safety hazards. Learn more about the responsibilities and considerations of both these groups, please click <u>here</u>.

Please feel free to reach out to your <u>Federated</u> regional representative or EMA's National Account Executive <u>Jon Medo</u> at 800.533.0472 for any additional information or risk management questions. Federated is a Partner in EMA's Board of Directors Council.

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Qualified counsel should be sought with questions specific to your circumstances. © 2024 Federated Mutual Insurance Company.



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<u>EMA JOURNAL -</u> The Official Publication of the Energy Marketers of America Check out the EMA Journal anytime online by clicking <u>here</u>.

The EMA Journal fall issue is now available.

Interested in a previous WPMA News issue? Click **HERE**.



PLEASE NOTE UPCOMING DATES FOR WPMA EVENTS

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



Petro Pete: I got hit in the head with a can of Coke today. Don't worry, I'm not hurt. It was a soft drink.

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