



May Legislative Highlights

RI Legislative Updates At A Glance:

Recent Results of Hearings on Legislation Being Followed This Session

- House Bill No. [7490](#)
- House Bill No. [7496](#)
- House Bill No. [7593 SUB A](#)
- Senate Bill No. [2430 SUB A](#)
- Senate Bill No. [2486 SUB A](#)
- Senate Bill No. [2673](#)
- Senate Bill No. [2775](#)

In Other Legislative News:

- Recreational marijuana moved closer Wednesday to becoming a reality in the Rhode Island. The Senate Judiciary and House Finance committees both advanced legislation to their respective chambers.
- Rhode Island's [budget surplus](#) just keeps getting bigger. The latest projections of state tax collections and spending show Rhode Island ending the fiscal year with an \$877.5-million surplus, according to a new report from the Office of Management and Budget.

- Rhode Island's state economic development agency Wednesday approved \$21 million in state incentives for the renovation and conversion of the Industrial Trust Tower into apartments.
- Gov. Dan McKee and Secretary of State Nellie Gorbea are neck and neck in the Democratic primary for governor, but more voters are undecided than supporting either candidate, an exclusive 12 News/Roger Williams University poll released Tuesday shows.
- Half of Democratic primary voters are undecided in the race to replace Congressman Jim Langevin, and General Treasurer Seth Magaziner is the only candidate who has substantial support so far, an exclusive 12 News/Roger Williams University poll released Tuesday shows.

[Click here to learn more about Rhode Island Legislation.](#)

National Legislative Updates At A Glance:

- **FDA and White House Announce Steps to Address Infant Formula Supply and House E&C Oversight Subcommittee Announces Hearing on Shortages:** This week, after rising concerns about shortages of infant formula, FDA and the White House announced new approaches to increase the supply of infant formula across the country.
- **NACS and other fuel retail groups are concerned the House bill singles out motor fuel for legal scrutiny:** The U.S. House of Representatives is expected to vote this week on legislation that would prohibit "excessive" or "exploitive" fuel prices.
- **NGA Urges Swipe Fee Reform, Calls For End To Anticompetitive Tactics:**The National Grocers Association called on lawmakers to fix the "broken" U.S. card payments system and stem the rising tide of swipe fees that compound the impact of inflation and cost merchants and consumers billions of dollars annually.

[Click here to learn more about National Legislation.](#)



GIVING BACK

to our community for over a century.

For more than 100 years, Stop & Shop has proudly supported our neighborhoods and the local organizations that empower them. We are proud to be a member of the Rhode Island Food Dealers Association.



2022 RIFDA Trade Day



Wednesday, June 22, 2022 Kirkbrae Country Club

- RI State Best Bagger Competition
- Networking Cocktail Reception
 - Industry Dinner
- Featuring a Keynote Speaker
 - RIFDA Hall of Fame



KIRKBRAE
COUNTRY CLUB

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Competition](#)



Industry News

Let's build a more just and resilient food system for all Rhode Islanders.

TAKE THE **2022 RI FOOD SYSTEMS STAKEHOLDER SURVEY**



Everyone who buys, eats, grows, processes, distributes, and recycles food here is a stakeholder in our local food system. **YOUR OPINION MATTERS!**

Our annual RI Food Systems Stakeholder survey is now open, and we hope you'll lend us a few minutes of your time to take it.

In our work to build a more just and resilient food system for all Rhode Islanders, we coordinate and collaborate with diverse people from all sectors of the food system who are committed and engaged in making our food system equitable, supporting farms, fisheries and food businesses, and working to improve and conserve our land, air, and water. Your answers help us know what programs, projects, or partnerships we should work on, and what policies we should focus on.

We respect your privacy. Your answers will not be shared outside of RIFPC.

For most people, this survey takes 5-7 minutes. Thank you for taking the time to help.

p.s! One survey taker will be randomly selected to win a \$100 gift card to the Newport Restaurant Group!

Local Merchandising Essential To The Save Mart's Neighborhood Identity

"It's about getting our stores to be merchandised to the neighborhood to what our consumers are looking for," said James Gillespie, senior director of local merchandising.

[Read The Full Story](#)

Help Your Employees Stay Engaged, And Stay!

Employers are wringing their hands and gnashing their teeth trying to grok the Great Resignation. "If you are thinking, 'Oh good, the pandemic is over and now things can return to normal,' you had better think again," advises Ted Green, president of The Stratecon Group, a tech business consulting company. "Employees cited low pay, unappreciative/disrespectful management, and dead-end jobs with no reasonable path for advancement," Green continued. "And the continuing labor shortage puts business owners/managers in competition for candidates - and candidates are more demanding than ever before." So how do you keep the Great Resignation from consuming your consumer tech company? To paraphrase that great political truth: it's the training, stupid.

[Read The Full Story](#)

Shoppers are making the rounds for grocery deals

As pandemic fears ease and as inflation continues to affect the market, consumers not only are returning to in-person grocery shopping but also are abandoning the convenience of shopping at a single store, instead searching multiple retailers for the best deals and prices, according to research from IRI. "Traffic trends in the second quarter are strong, as we believe consumers are increasingly looking to stretch their shopping dollar in light of inflation," Grocery Outlet CEO Eric Lindberg says.

[Read The Full Story](#)

Why every leader needs a strong deputy

Early Antarctic expeditions teach the value of a second in command who can foster team cohesion and serve as a sounding board for their boss, writes Brad Borkan. "And it helps with succession planning: having a proven and experienced second-in-command means that it's easier for the leader to move higher in the organization, because there is someone to step into their former role who can ensure continuity and consistency," Borkan writes.

[Read The Full Story](#)

Inflation fuels food price increases

American consumers are suffering under heavy levels of inflation not seen since the early 1980s. Some of the fault for the dramatic surge in food inflation lies with bad government policy. Consumers here in the US are expected to see prices continue to rise and, unfortunately, even see some products disappear from store shelves as shortages of products like edible oil become critical.

[Read The Full Story](#)

3 Methods For Reducing Grocery Store Shrink

Grocery store shrink has been at an all-time high, costing the retail industry around \$61.7 billion in sales. It's a problem that can be mitigated. A more holistic approach that includes implementing controls, training, and technology are needed, and are very affordable.

[Read The Full Story](#)

Managers, don't forget to tell your team the outcome

Managers are often good at the upfront parts of employee communication but forget to "close the loop" on what was decided and why, writes John Baldoni. "Closing the loop makes employees feel included, valued and crucial to the team," Baldoni writes.

[Read The Full Story](#)

3 ideas for turning negativity into solutions

People who are negative at work may have legitimate concerns but feel unheard, writes Guy Harris. Leaders need to listen and then steer the employee toward positive, collaborative change by being "willing to work with them to solve the problems that you can solve," Harris writes.

[Read The Full Story](#)



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Chex



Thank you to our May Retailer of the Month -
Dino's

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Industry Webinars

Food Prices 101: How U.S. Grocery Shopping Trends are Impacted by Inflation, Food Prices, COVID, and Global Events – NEW REPORT

This webinar share findings from the Food Industry Association's new report on U.S. grocery shopping trends and provide insight on inflation and the latest Consumer Price Index (CPI) figures. FMI Vice President of Tax, Trade, Sustainability & Policy Development Andrew Harig was joined by our Director of Research Steve Markenson to discuss the newly released [U.S. Grocery Shopper Trends 2022](#) report, CPI figures, inflation, food

prices, COVID, and global events.
[Watch Now](#)

Top Trends in Fresh 2022: Who and What Matters Most for the Future of Fresh

This webinar is the first in a four-part annual series, now in its seventh year. The session is ideal for retailers and marketers who compete in the fresh foods space, as well as other food and beverage manufacturers and retailers.

[Watch Now](#)

Engaging Gen Z As Staff And Customers

Learn how grocers of all sizes can engage Gen Z - the 67 million young people born between 1997 and 2012. Gen Z's are the most racially and ethnically diverse of any generation.

They are the first generation that has entirely grown up with the Internet. This access to information and diversity drives their need for community, their social consciousness, and their concerns for their future. At the same time, it drives their entrepreneurial spirit and desire to learn, question, improve and try things a new way.

And, they are the future of your business – your customers, your staff, and the influencers who will impact the buying preferences of your customers and the values of your staff.

iFoster works with more than 30,000 Gen Z's across every state and is sharing all that they have learned about Gen Z's and:

- What is driving this “work to live” generation
- Why labor shortages are the new norm and what employers need to do to compete for and retain Gen Z
- What iFoster has learned from employing and serving hundreds of Gen Z foster youth, and how might that translate to your business
- About iFoster’s employment programs, which have been recognized by the Federal Government as a promising practice in youth employment, and by AmeriCorps the “Best New Program 2019.”

Wednesday, June 15, 2022 @ 2:00 pm EST

[Register](#)

Coming Soon - RIFDA Events

June 2022:

- Wed. June 15th Legislative Committee Meeting
- Thurs. June 16th @ 7:30 AM: Executive Committee Meeting
- **Wed. June 22nd 2022 Trade Day (Best Bagger, Food Demos, Networking Reception, Industry Dinner) @ Kirkbrae Country Club, Lincoln RI**

July 2022:

- Mon. July 4th Office Closed: Observance of 4th of July Holiday
- Thurs. July 14th Executive Committee Meeting @ 7:30 AM
- Wed. July 20th Legislative Committee Meeting (*Legislative Wrap Up*)

August 2022:

- Thurs. Aug. 4th Potential WIC/SNAP Meeting
 - Mon. Aug. 8th Victory Day Holiday – Office Closed
 - Wed. Aug. 10th TENTATIVE: Legislative Committee Meeting – If Needed
 - Thurs. Aug. 25th Executive Committee Meeting @ 7:30 AM
 - Mon. Aug. 29th RIFDA – Cliff Johnson Annual Charity Golf Tournament @ Kirkbrae CC
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Please support our Legislative efforts by supporting our PAC.



Satisfied Member?

Spread the Word, Tell Your Industry Friends & Vendors.

As a member, the benefit advantages such as our food safety renewal classes, WIC/EBT updates, legislative representation and updates, national industry affiliations and updates, networking events, energy programs and food industry camaraderie, as well as a number of other initiatives make RIFDA a great opportunity for new members.

Throughout each year there are exciting events as well as sponsorship and advertising opportunities. It is members like yourselves that make this all happen.

With new memberships RIFDA moves into the future as a stronger and more vibrant representative of the Rhode Island food community.

[Learn More](#)



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