

HELPING RESTAURANTS RISE ABOVE

SOME OF OUR ACCOMPLISHMENTS OVER THE LAST YEAR.

Through effective lobbying and advocacy, we develop and support policies that positively impact the hospitality industry —and work to defeat those that harm it.

Federal

- All work at the National level is done in conjunction with our partner, the National Restaurant Association, and focused on our NY delegation in Congress.
- Currently working with our partners to pass the "Credit Card Competition Act of 2022." This bill will inject more competition into the payments ecosystem by allowing restaurants and other merchants to choose which payments networks process their credit card transactions.
- Supported changes to the "Inflation Reduction Act" which significantly lowered the amount of restaurants included in a tax increase on businesses. Now only those companies with more than $1 billion in financial statement income, who pay less than a 15% effective tax rate, will be subject to a new corporate alternative minimum tax (CAMT) beginning in 2023.
- Advocating for the Small Business Administration to release the remaining $180 million that remains in the Restaurant Revitalization Fund. While we know this won't fund any where close to the remaining applications, we feel it is important that the money that is earmarked for restaurants is received by restaurants.
- Trying to expand the terms of the Employee Retention Tax Credit to include Q4 of 2021. This tax credit is worth up to $26,000 per employee and has been a boon to restaurants across the State and we are looking to congress to reinstate the ability for restaurants to apply for this credit for final quarter of 2021. Originally this time was included but was later removed in subsequent legislation. We are hopeful we will be able to get it back.

State

- The NYS Restaurant Association has taken active steps to try and better our relationship with the Executive branch and new Governor Kathy Hochul. This has led to better communication between her office and ours, as well as more input on prospective legislation. All in all, a vast improvement over the previous administration.
- Worked tirelessly and successfully to pass a permanent Alcohol to-go bill that will allow restaurants to access an additional revenue stream as we try to build back the industry decimated by Covid.
- Advocated for the creation of the New York State Liquor Authority Commission to Reform the Alcoholic Beverage Control Law – a group that will go through the current liquor laws in the State through the fall and make recommendations on needed changes. Many liquor laws in the State are antiquated and need changing which is why this commission is so important.
- Helped defeat the "SWEAT Act" which was a dangerous piece of legislation that would've allowed employees to take out a personal lien on business owners if they felt they were victims of wage theft. While this bill is sure to come back next legislative session, we will be ready to try and defeat it again.
- Helped pass legislation that will allow temporary off-premise liquor licensing for caterers, easing a burden for many caterers who are specialize in off-premise events.



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New York City

- Worked with NYC government to expand space for outdoor dining through the Open Restaurants program, and consistently supported the city in a transition to a permanent program that is accessible and affordable for all restaurants.
- Together with small business advocates across the city, advocated for and supported the Mayor's Small Business Forward initiative to cut fines and red tape in city agencies.
- Steered the City to the end of indoor dining vaccine mandates through timely survey data about restaurant operators' and employees' experiences with enforcement.
- Enacted legislation in NYC to cap third-party delivery fees at 15% and 5% for marketing and other fees, ensuring restaurants get a fair shake from their food delivery partners.
- Met with New York City Mayor Eric Adams and emphasized the importance of the hospitality industry in New York City and the significant economic engine we represent.

The power of membership.

As a NYSRA member, powerful resources are right at your fingertips. From protecting your business through effective advocacy, to supporting you with events and education, to providing you key training and cost-saving programs, our focus is making your job easier—and making your business the best it can be.

It has never been more important for the restaurant industry to overcome challenges and advocate as a united front. The more members we have, the more powerful our voice as an industry.

Now is when we need each other most. Join NYSRA today

NEW YORK STATE RESTAURANT ASSOCIATION

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