

MISSOURI Restaurant News

July 16, 2020



Association Releases Blueprint for Restaurant Revival

Today, the National Restaurant Association sent the "<u>Blueprint for Restaurant Revival</u>" to Congress. The comprehensive policy and legislative plan outlines specific and immediate action the federal government should take to stabilize the industry in the short-term and set the foundation for long-term rebuilding.

"In the past two weeks alone, state and local government mandates have shut down almost 100,000 restaurants," said Sean Kennedy, executive vice president of Public Affairs for the Association. "Since the restaurant industry was first shuttered, the National Restaurant Association and our State Restaurant Association partners have led the call at the federal, state, and local level for policies that will allow us not to profit, but simply to survive this pandemic. Despite losing more jobs and revenue than any other industry in this country, Congress has chosen not to advance a recovery package that is tailored for the unique challenges of a restaurant on the cusp of bankruptcy."

The Blueprint focuses on short-term and long-term areas where Congress can act to make significant changes that would support restaurants of every size and operational model in communities across the country. They include:

Short-term Relief to Restart the Restaurant Industry

- Create a Restaurant Recovery Fund for structured relief to help restaurants get the liquidity they need.
- Build on the success of PPP by enacting a second round of application eligibility to initial eight-week- loan recipients.
- Make PPP loans tax deductible so that small businesses can deduct eligible expenses paid with a forgiven PPP loan.
- Establish a long-term loan program beyond PPP so restaurants can rehire, retrain, and retain valued employees.
- Expand the Employee Retention Tax Credit (ERTC).
- Improve Economic Injury Disaster Loans (EIDLs) by replenishing funding.
- Provide customer and employee wellness tax credits.
- Address Business Interruption insurance claims for small businesses.
- Add legal liability protections for restaurants and businesses to stem frivolous or

fraudulent lawsuits.

Long-Term Priorities to Support the Industry and Our Communities

- Ensure the stability of America's food supply chain from farm to table.
- Enact Payroll Tax Relief for essential workers.
- Help restaurants feed those who are vulnerable in their communities.
- Increase access to restaurant meals for low-income Americans.

Take action and ask your member of Congress to support the Blueprint for Restaurant Revival.



WEBINARS

Upcoming:

What to do When an Employee Tests Positive for COVID-19

Hosted by the N.C. Restaurant & Lodging Association with the National Restaurant Association Restaurant Law Center

Thursday, July 16, 2:00 p.m. CDT

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