



PRESS RELEASE

Contact: Tina Schwartz
Day Phone: (847) 290-9088
E-Mail: tschwartz@coin-op.org

FOUR AMUSEMENT INDUSTRY TRADE ASSOCIATIONS JOIN FORCES TO TAKE THEIR MESSAGE TO FEDERAL AND STATE LEGISLATORS

The American Amusement Machine Association forms coalition with the Amusement and Music Operators Association, International of Trampoline Parks, and Roller-Skating Association International to advocate for the Amusement Industry before Nine Congressional Offices, the National Governors Association, and the National Conference of State Legislators

Elk Grove Village, IL – October 6, 2020 – The [American Amusement Machine Association](#), (AAMA) with the help of [Dentons'](#) Public Policy and Regulation Support Team in Washington DC, organized a coalition of amusement industry leading trade associations, including the [Amusement and Music Operators Association](#), (AMOA), the [International Association of Trampoline Parks](#), (IATP) and the [Roller Skating Association International](#), (RSA) to advocate on behalf of the Amusement Industry on Thursday, October 1. The group met with nine congressional offices associated with the [House Small Business Committee](#), the [National Governors Association](#), (NGA) and the [National Conference of State Legislators](#), (NCLS).

About the Advocacy Effort

AAMA, with the help of Dentons, organized a full day of Zoom meetings with nine federal congressional offices, and two national organizations focused on state level legislation. Several primary concerns were brought up.

- In meetings with members of the House Small Business Committee:
 - The need for Paycheck Protection Program, (PPP) loan forgiveness and more Federal Assistance.
 - Emergency Industry Disaster Loans, (EDIL) forgiveness and an increase above their current \$150,000 lending limit.
- In state level meetings:
 - Share the devastating impacts of the patchwork implementations of state reopening's, and the impacts felt by small businesses.

American Amusement Machine Association
450 E. Higgins Road, Suite 201 | Elk Grove Village, IL 60007
P: +1(847) 290-9088 | F: +1(847) 290-9121
www.coin-op.org

About the Advocacy Day

The day started off with a morning briefing led by Dentons Principal, John Russell IV and Senior Managing Director, Margeaux Plaisted. They laid out the plan of the action for the day. From there, the group – at times with as many as 50 people – was led on a marathon Virtual Day on the Hill attending 11 separate meetings.

Meetings were held with nine congressional offices including:

- South Carolina Senator, Tim Scott
- Minnesota 8th District Congressman, Pete Stauber
- New York 19th District Congressman, Antonio Delgado
- New Jersey 3rd District Congressman, Andy Kim
- Colorado 6th District Congressman, Jason Crow
- North Carolina 9th District Congressman, Rob Bishop
- Tennessee 2nd District Congressman, Tim Burchett
- Iowa 1st District Congresswoman, Abby Finkenauer
- Maine 2nd District Congressman, Jared Golden

Meetings were held with two State Level Organizations including:

- National Governor's Association
 - Legislative Director, Education & Workforce Committee, Stephen Parker
 - Program Director, Economic Opportunity Division, Amanda Winters
- National Conference of State Legislators
 - DC Office Director, Molly Ramsdell

“It was a fantastic day for the industry,” said AAMA President, Joe Camarota. “The representation, participation and contributions made by such a wide cross section of the industry helped us drive home our message to key policy makers.

“I was so impressed, and frankly humbled by the personal story's shared by the attendees who, through no fault of their own, have been thrust into extremely precarious situations. We weren't there to ask for a hand-out, we were asking for a hand up so we can get back to doing what we do best, provide spaces for celebration, fun and joy. I can't think of another time when what we do was more needed than it is today.”

About Next Steps

AAMA HQ has created a survey to gather information to help with their industry advocacy efforts. You can find the survey by clicking [here](#). “The survey results will be a key part of our follow up efforts with legislators,” said AAMA Executive Vice President, Pete Gustafson. “Having empirical data about the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on our industry greatly enhances our ability to bring attention, and much needed assistance to our entire industry.”

About AAMA Free Membership

There's never been a time of greater need for our industry to come together. To that end, AAMA's Board of Director's elected to waive membership fees for 2021. You can find the membership application by clicking [here](#).

You're encouraged to join us as we work to fulfill our mission statement, To Preserve, Protect and Promote the Amusement Industry. Let's come together and embrace our belief that "we" are so much stronger than "me."

About The AAMA

The American Amusement Machine Association (AAMA) is an international not-for-profit 501(c)6 trade organization representing the manufacturers, distributors, suppliers, professional service providers and location owner/operators for the coin-operated amusement industry. Our mission is to preserve, protect and promote our industry through legislative advocacy, education, events, networking and member programs.

XX End XX