



Capitol Watch

Legislative Update From the Minnesota Grocers Association

Date: February 6, 2025

To: Jim Zupancich, Zup's Food Market

GOP – DFL Reach Agreement in the House

Wednesday night, leaders of the House Republican and DFL caucuses announced a deal on a shared power agreement that will end the nearly four-week Democrat boycott and allow the chamber to get down to work. The basic outline of the deal includes:

- GOP Leader Lisa Demuth (R - Cold Spring) will be Speaker of the House for full two-years of the biennium.
- Republicans will not block the seating of Brad Tabke (DFL - Shakopee)
- Republicans will have majorities on House committees until the Special Election to fill vacated 40B seat, which is now scheduled for March 11.
- Following the 40B election, which will likely return the House to a 67-67 tie, committees will have GOP & DFL co-chairs and equal membership.

The MGA Team is happy to see an agreement reached and are ready to get back to “normal” – if there is such a thing in St. Paul.

Senate Special Election – DFL Has

As one power-sharing agreement began in the House this week, another agreement came to an end. The Senate was operating under a temporary agreement following the passing of Sen. [Kari Dzeidzic](#) (DFL – Minneapolis) and pending a special election to fill that seat. That election occurred last week. DFL'er Doron Clark was victorious and re-established the DFL's 34-33 majority.

MGA 2025 Day on Hill – Registration Deadline

The MGA's annual Day on the Hill is now less than three weeks. Join us on **Wednesday, February 26, 2025** for a day that will include informational briefings from the MGA Government Relations Team, meetings with legislators and agency leaders, and the exciting Bipartisan Bag-Off. MGA encourages members to bring as many of their teams as possible to this important day. The registration form can be found [HERE](#).

In order to help us secure legislative meetings and a head count for the legislative dinner, please submit your registration by Wednesday, February 12.

Bill of the Week

MGA Capitol Check Out Recording

The recording of today's Capitol Checkout Call is now available. Recordings are uploaded to the MGA's YouTube page. Feel free to share with members of your teams.

January 31, 2025 Capitol Check Out Recording - [HERE](#)

January 17, 2025 Capitol Check Out Recording - [HERE](#)

Join us **Friday, February 14 at 9:30 a.m.** for our next call. These calls are now being held virtually via Microsoft Teams. Contact [Steve Barthel](#) to receive the meeting link and recurring calendar invite.

2025 Legislative Sponsorship Available

[2025 Legislative Sponsorship Contracts](#) are now available! Becoming an MGA Legislative Sponsor demonstrates that you are a committed partner in advancing the work of the MGA in St. Paul. Sponsors receive recognition throughout the year in all of our legislative updates, publications, and events. Thank

you to those who have already submitted their sponsorships! (see below) If you have any questions about sponsorship, please contact [Steve Barthel](#).

Support the Food PAC of Minnesota

The Food PAC of MN is the Minnesota Grocers Association political action committee, which makes contributions to legislators and candidates from all political parties. As we move toward a packed 2026 election cycle it is vital that the Food PAC has the funds available to ensure that the voice of industry is heard. The MGA would not be asking if it was not vitally important to advance industry so [please donate today!](#) **Contributions are only accepted from personal funds.** Contact [Steve Barthel](#) with any questions.

[Patrick Garofalo](#), President and [Steve Barthel](#), Director of Government Relations, are here to assist. Do not hesitate to contact us with any questions or concerns.

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