

Donna Boggs

From: Ag Association Management Services, Inc <chris@agamsi.com>
Sent: Friday, April 17, 2020 2:54 PM
To: Donna Boggs
Subject: AAMSI Update on COVID-19 Situation

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SPECIAL **COVID-19 UPDATE**
FROM YOUR TEAM AT AAMSI



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California Grown Shares Open Letter from CDFA Secretary to U.S. Retailers

The California Grown program is making efforts to thank U.S. retailers for their efforts to ensure food, flowers and plants continue to be available during the pandemic. Secretary of California Department of Food and Agriculture Karen Ross penned a letter that is being shared by California Grown through its extensive consumer and media channels.

In the letter, Secretary Ross thanks retailers, stores and team members throughout the distribution chain for providing essential services and assures them California producers will continue their work to provide healthy, nutritious and beautiful products. You can read the full letter [here](#).

You are encouraged to share this information with your own members, customers, trade publications or friends.

Governor Newsom Announces Paid Sick Leave Benefits for Food Sector Workers

Yesterday Governor Gavin Newsom signed an executive order to support California workers from large employers in the food sector industry impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic with two weeks of paid sick leave. In a press release, Newsom noted that workers in the food sector, including farmworkers, agricultural workers, and those working in grocery stores and

fast food chains, and as delivery drivers, are part of the state's essential infrastructure workforce, and have continued to work to serve Californians.

The release also states this order is meant to fill a gap left by federal relief that had provided similar paid leave benefits for employers with fewer than 500 workers. Unlike the federal program, the state order does not include funding for sick leave and this is being left up to employers.

The cost of complying with the order is likely to severely impact agricultural businesses already reeling from economic impacts caused by the virtual shutdown of the nation's foodservice businesses and export markets. A group of agricultural associations and lobbyists is doing all they can to communicate with the Administration about the financial impact of the pandemic on farmers and processors. We will keep you posted on this important topic.

In the meantime, a copy of the Governor's executive order can be found [here](#) and text can be found [here](#).

In other action by the Governor, commercially licensed food trucks will be able to temporarily operate in roadside rest areas for a period of 60 days, to ensure essential infrastructure workers have access to food. Caltrans will be charged with developing and implementing a process to administer the temporary permits.

DMV Extends All Expiring Drivers Licenses

The California Department of Motor Vehicles issued a press release earlier this week announcing it is extending driver licenses expiring during the COVID-19 pandemic. As part of this move, all commercial driver licenses, endorsements and certificates expiring between March and June 2020 are now valid through June 30, 2020, aligning with a recent emergency declaration from the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration.

According to the release, the DMV has alerted California law enforcement of the extensions. A copy of the press release with additional information can be found [here](#) and a list of additional points of contact for industry is available [here](#).

COVID-19 Resources: How to Train Workers

The Western Center for Agriculture Safety and Health (WCASH) continues to be a valuable resource for assisting ag businesses to protect and educate employees. If you haven't already, please bookmark this website: <https://aghealth.ucdavis.edu/es/covid19#resources>

- WCASH has just posted a new resource that provides specifics on talking to your employees about COVID-19. It is offered in both [English](#) and [Spanish](#). The site also offers downloadable information to distribute to your workers or post at the worksite.

Updated PPE Supplier List

We will continue to send the list of potential Personal Protection Equipment (PPE) suppliers being sent to us via the California Department of Food and Agriculture. Click [here](#) for the updated list dated April 15.



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