

# CMA Weekly Update



## CMA Weekly Update – May 28, 2021

This week marked one year since the murder of George Floyd sparked a racial awakening in the U.S. that led to new and renewed commitments to racial justice for all. Over the past year, the NAM has worked to promote manufacturers' [Pledge for Action](#) with resources that support companies' efforts to build diverse and inclusive workplaces. The NAM's Manufacturing Institute lists featured case studies and pre-recorded webinars [here](#) that you can share with your members. Additionally, the CMA DEI working group is exploring resources to support our CMA partners and your members, on your DEI journey. If you would like to join this committee or provide input, please [let us know](#). And look for more to come from this group in the coming weeks.

### Key Issues

**Association Leaders Share Advocacy Insights** NAM President and CEO Jay Timmons joined Susan Neely, CEO American Council of Life Insurers (ACLI) and Suzanne Clark, CEO, U.S. Chamber of Commerce on a CEO Update [panel](#) this week to discuss association advocacy in today's hyper-partisan environment. The discussion covered a lot of ground discussing challenges ranging from increasing pressure for the business community to speak out on cultural issues to adopting digital advocacy trends accelerated by the pandemic. While the politically polarized environment does create challenges, the trio shared a number of strategies that associations can successfully deploy. We have more data than ever before and that can be leveraged to improve messaging content and targeting. Associations can use members' stories to reach members of Congress and digital meetings have expanded opportunities to connect them with legislators. For more insights, you can watch the full video of the webinar [here](#).

**NAM Supports Healthy Workplaces Tax Credit Act** The NAM joined other associations in a letter calling on President Biden to support the bicameral and bipartisan Healthy Workplaces Tax Credit Act ([S. 537](#) and [H.R. 1944](#)), which would provide employers with a refundable tax credit for qualified workplace safety expenses related to COVID-19. The NAM called on Congress to provide tax incentives for employers investing in workplace safety measures as part of its [American Renewal Action Plan](#). You can read the letter [here](#) and contact [David Eiselsberg](#), NAM's Senior Director, Tax Policy, with any questions.

**Manufacturers' Town Hall on CDC Vaccine Guidance** While the news that vaccinated individuals do not have to wear masks or social distance in most circumstances illustrates positive movement in our efforts to defeat COVID-19, it raised difficult and important

questions for manufacturing workplaces. The NAM sent letters to [OSHA](#) and the [EEOC](#) this week to encourage new workplace guidance that aligns with CDC's mask and social distancing recommendations. Questions and concerns raised by CMA partners and other NAM members helped to shape our advocacy efforts.

During a town hall this week, panelists from Kohler, Johnson Controls, Quad and Whirlpool shared how they are navigating the [CDC guidance](#) while continuing their commitments to safe workplaces. If you were not able to join the webinar, you can view a recording [here](#).

**New Methane Emissions on the Horizon** Recently, the EPA [announced](#) that it would craft regulations on methane, a shift from the previous administration's refusal to directly regulate it, Reuters reports. The agency will unveil new regulations later this year. Meanwhile, the Senate passed a [resolution](#) that "effectively reinstates" the Obama administration's standards. The House is expected to consider the resolution soon.

Reducing harmful pollutants like methane is a key priority of the NAM's work on climate action. As the EPA moves to write new methane regulations, manufacturers are working with the agency to share our expertise. We support technology-based standards that reward early and aggressive action, while providing the flexibility to promote innovation and ensure we get the most reductions at the lowest cost. You can read more about this issue [here](#) and view NAM's climate policy recommendations in [The Promise Ahead](#).

**ICYMI: NAM Webinar on Inheritance Tax Issues** The NAM is leading efforts to ensure that family-owned manufacturers can pass their businesses on to the next generation without fear of substantial tax liability that could force them to liquidate assets, lay off employees, or close the business. Last week's webinar featured a legislative and political update on these efforts, an in-depth analysis of the economic impact of repealing stepped-up basis, and overview of the STEP Act's limitations on family-owned businesses' use of trusts to transfer assets to the next generation. You can listen to a recording from last week's webinar [here](#).

## **Advocacy Opportunities**

**Tracking State Action on Enhanced Unemployment Benefits** As more states begin to take action on Federal Supplemental Unemployment Insurance, please utilize the NAM's Manufacturers' State Affairs Program document outlining the current state of play [here](#).

[Sign-up](#) to receive timely updates on state issues from our MSAP.

[Let us know](#) if we can provide you with additional resources to engage your members.

## **CMA Member Highlights**

- **The Beer Institute** and the National Beer Wholesalers Association released their biennial ["Beer Serves America"](#) report highlighting the industry's impact on the

U.S. Economy. The study found that the beer industry supports over 2 million jobs and contributes more than \$330 billion to our economy.

*The NAM provides this weekly update with key content for our association partners. This is also a platform to highlight work of our CMA partners. [Shoot us a note](#) on any initiatives or messages that your organization has launched that we can share with others.*