



NPCA LIST OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Nebraska Petroleum Marketers and Convenience Store Association (NPCA) is a non-profit organization, which was organized in 1918 and incorporated in 1920, promoting a more profitable marketing environment for petroleum marketers and convenience store operators doing business in the State of Nebraska.

Below are some of the accomplishments of NPCA over the past 95 years:

- 1939 - Endorsed a bill that became law granting distributors a 3% shrinkage allowance.
- 1956 - Worked with PMAA, our national representation, in defeating legislation that would have forbidden marketers from entering the retail trade.
- 1972 - Challenged and repealed excessive pump inspection fees.
- 1981 - Worked with the Fire Marshal's Office to allow key/card locks in Nebraska.
- 1983 - Helped marketers obtain thousands of dollars in refunds from oil overcharging.
- 1986 - Worked extensively with both state and federal authorities on an underground storage tank program for Nebraska.
- 1989 - LB 289, introduced by NPCA, passes establishing the Petroleum Remedial Action Fund (a.k.a. L.U.S.T. Fund).
- 1990 - NPCA works to add financial responsibility cover to the L.U.S.T. Fund.
- 1996 - NPCA scores a victory for exempting small marketers from some Federal D.O.T. registration requirements.
- 2000 & 2001 – Retained retailers freedom and consumer choice in the products they sell/purchase by defeating attempts to mandate that all gasoline sold in the State must contain ethanol.
- 2002 - Successfully passed legislation extending, till June 2005, the eligibility date for reporting releases to the State Fund.
- 2003 – Reduction of the Hazmat fee- reduced the fee from \$300 per year to \$150 per year for the next three years. - Continued coverage of UST through the State UST Fund. Savings to members of over \$10,000, the cost of an initial site assessment and \$4,000 - \$5,000 per year in private insurance coverage, this is per site. Defeated a bill that would have reduced marketers' cost of collection on motor fuel. Continued to work with a coalition of other concerned associations to defeat legislation on storm water runoff that would have allowed cities and NRD's to implement a storm water utility and charge a fee. Continue to hold off an increase in the minimum wage.
- 2005 – Continue to work on issues such as opposing: a minimum wage increase of \$1.15 per hour; DRAM shop legislation; an ethanol mandate; increasing the state MFT rate for ethanol as an E-10 incentive; occupation taxing authority of local governments and supporting changes to exempt certain CO2 pressure vessels from inspections and fees.
- 2006 – Work with other interest groups to prohibit certain exculpatory clauses in motor carrier transportation contracts; defeat legislation that would have required employers to provide reason(s) for termination; oppose legislation that would allow liquor license issuance dependent on license density; oppose a renewable fuels content law that would require ethanol to be in all fuels but premium and premium could only be used for antique cars, boats, motor cycles, etc but not automobiles.
- 2007 – Work to ensure that Nebraska did not have a minimum wage that was different than that of the federal minimum wage; worked to ensure that the State Motor fuel tax rate did not increase causing Nebraska to be even less competitive with surrounding states; worked to ensure that funds from the HWY Trust Fund were not diverted to other areas; provided a voice for petroleum retailers in discussions on a proposed D.R.A.M. Shop coverage for those who sell alcoholic beverages; worked with a coalition on storm water runoff legislation that potential could cost over \$700 per acre of impervious surface
- 2008 – Fought to hold off attempts at to mandate D.R.A.M shop coverage; introduced and passed legislation to extend the eligibility date, for UST owners, to file a claim against the state fund to June 30, 2012
- 2009 – Obtained a waiver for bulk plant operators, from stage I Vapor Recovery through DEQ, so that the rule only applied to those locations actually having volumes greater than 20,000 gallons per day, as opposed to having a capacity to do this volume. Continue to adamantly oppose and hold off DRAM Shop legislation.
- 2010 – Introduced and passed legislation that removed the requirement for the owners of new tanks at a site where tanks have not been previously located to obtain private insurance to cover the costs of any remedial action to the tanks or the site.
- 2011 – Fended off attempts to remove the ethanol labeling requirement, so that consumers choosing to purchase a motor fuel with ethanol know they are getting an ethanol blended product and to let those that chose not to use an ethanol blended product are able to identify which product(s) do not contain ethanol. NPCA worked diligently to ensure that legislation that would have reduced the cost of collection (by half) allowed to motor fuel tax license holders was held in committee. The bill would have dramatically reduced the cost of collection allowed for collecting and remitting the state motor fuel tax to the State of Nebraska. The bill was held in committee and carried over to the 2012 session.
- 2012 – Obtained an extension of the eligibility date of when a claim can be turned into the Nebraska L.U.S.T. fund, to June 30, 2016. **Continued efforts to ensure that NPCA members retained their existing cost of collection a savings on the low end of thousands of dollars per year and on the upper end as much as \$750,000. This is an ongoing year to year savings to members.**

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- 2013 – Fought a bill to place sales tax on soft drinks and a bill to increase the state's cigarette tax from \$0.64 to \$1.36, over a 200% increase. Supported a bill to eliminate the City of Omaha occupation tax on cigarettes and a bill to prohibit that an occupation tax could be put on motor fuel. Testified against the repeal of LB84 (2011) that allocated 1/4 of a cent general sales tax revenue to roads.
- 2015 – Adamantly opposed the increase in the state motor fuel tax from the perspective that Nebraska has not had an advantage over the State of Iowa for many, many years and after the implementation of Nebraska MFT increases, Nebraska still would be higher. Worked with the State Fire Marshal's office to remove erroneous requirements (i.e. picture on completion certificate, not allowing online training, etc.) in the proposed rules of operator training. In addition, not only is online training allowed, NPCA secured a low cost vendor to provide such training to members.
- 2016 – Passed legislation that **saved UST owners thousands of dollars per location by not forcing you to procure private insurance. It is the cost of performing a site assessment (\$10,000 plus) to determine previous contamination levels needed to secure private insurance that is the largest saving to UST owners.** Worked with a coalition to defeat an increase in the state's tobacco taxes (proposed \$1.50/pack increase).