

# interactive dialogue

The “**2019 Minnesota Government Affairs Preview – Food, Beverage, and Agribusiness Industries**” webinar will begin at 10:00 am CT

To listen to the audio portion of the webinar, please dial 1-800-536-9136, access code: 9038709#.

- A sign-in sheet and materials were attached to the program reminder email sent Tuesday, January 15, 2019.

- To submit a question before or during the webinar, please use the chat pane on the left-hand side of your screen.
- A replay of this webinar will be available upon request.





# interactive dialogue

## 2019 Minnesota Government Affairs Preview – Food, Beverage, and Agribusiness Industries

Molly Sigel  
Cam Winton  
Mike Droke

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# a brave new format

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# Minnesota State Government

- Governor Tim Walz (Democratic-Farmer-Labor Party)
- Senate controlled by Republicans
  - Sen. Paul Gazelka is Majority Leader
- House controlled by DFL
  - Rep. Melissa Hortman is Speaker of the House
- Only divided state legislature in entire U.S.



# 8 Issues to Watch in 2019

- 1) Saltwater aquaculture
- 2) The future of meat?
- 3) Regulation of chemicals in packaging
- 4) Neonicotinoid pesticides
- 5) Sales of wine and “strong beer”
- 6) Cannabis
- 7) Employment law proposals
- 8) Proposed regulatory reform



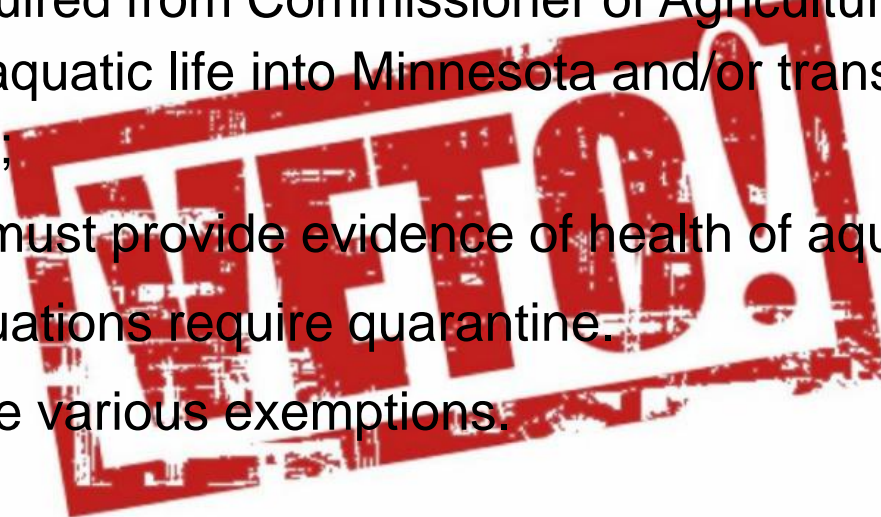
# 1) Saltwater aquaculture



Simply Shrimp, LLC  
Blomkest, Minnesota

# 1) Saltwater aquaculture

- 2018 agriculture bill included the following provisions:
  - saltwater aquatic farms and processing facilities are classified as agricultural operations for any Pollution Control Agency permit;
  - permit required from Commissioner of Agriculture to import saltwater aquatic life into Minnesota and/or transport it within Minnesota;
  - applicant must provide evidence of health of aquatic life; and
  - certain situations require quarantine.
  - There were various exemptions.



## 2) The future of meat?



- “cell-based meat”
- “cultured meat”
- “lab-grown meat”
- “lab-grown protein”
- “clean meat”
- “fake meat”



## 2) The future of meat?

- 2018: Missouri enacted law prohibiting use of term “meat” to refer to “a product . . . not derived from harvested production livestock or poultry.”
- Missouri law currently under legal challenge.
- Other states considering such laws.
- At least one Minnesota agricultural trade association wants to prohibit use of term “meat” for cultured meat.



### 3) Regulation of chemicals in packaging

- Minnesota Dept. of Health maintains list of “priority chemicals”:
  - Bisphenol A (BPA)
  - Cadmium
  - Decabromodiphenyl ether (decaBDE)
  - Formaldehyde
  - Hexabromocyclododecane (HBCD)
  - Lead
  - Phthalates



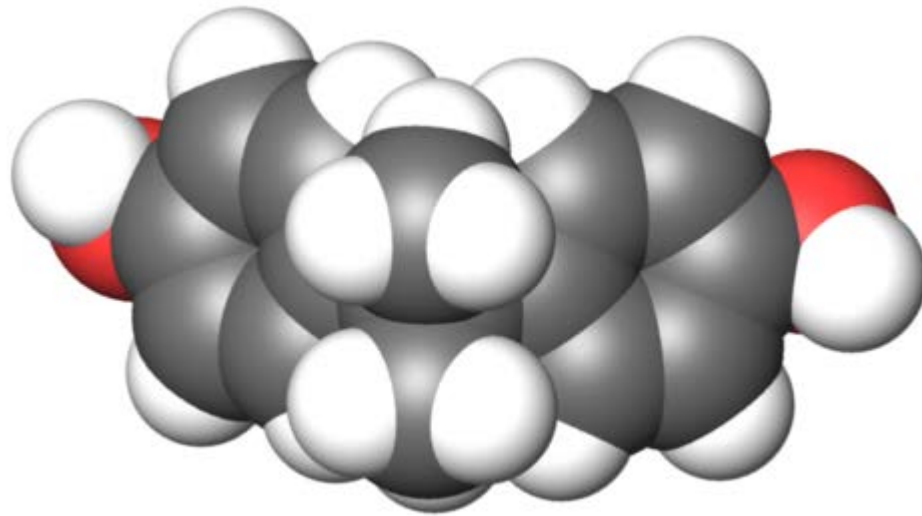
### 3) Regulation of chemicals in packaging

- In 2014, legislation advanced through multiple House and Senate committees that would have applied to products used by children, including (i) food; and (ii) packaging of food and beverages.



### 3) Regulation of chemicals in packaging

- Bill did not become law in 2014.
- But, lead author of 2014 bill is now back in State House as Majority Leader—so there's reason to expect the proposal to return.





## 4) Neonicotinoid pesticides

- Populations of bees, butterflies, and moths are declining.
- November 2018: Governor's Committee on Pollinator Protection issued recommendations.
- Not all received unanimous support.



## 4) Neonicotinoid pesticides

- Selected committee recommendations:
  - Moratorium on outdoor use of neonicotinoids.
  - Mandate that “seed companies, wholesalers, or retailers” sell seed varieties not treated with neonicotinoids.
  - Mandate that farmers prove need to use neonicotinoids.



# New York CLE Code

“We have some NY lawyers participating today. In accordance with NY CLE Rules, the New York Verification Code for this program is \_\_\_\_\_.”

## 5) Sales of wine and “strong beer”

- “Strong beer” = higher than 3.2% alcohol.
- Currently, grocery and convenience stores cannot sell wine, spirits, or strong beer.
- (Some effectively do sell those items by having separate entrance and separate cash register.)
- Expected bill would allow such sales.

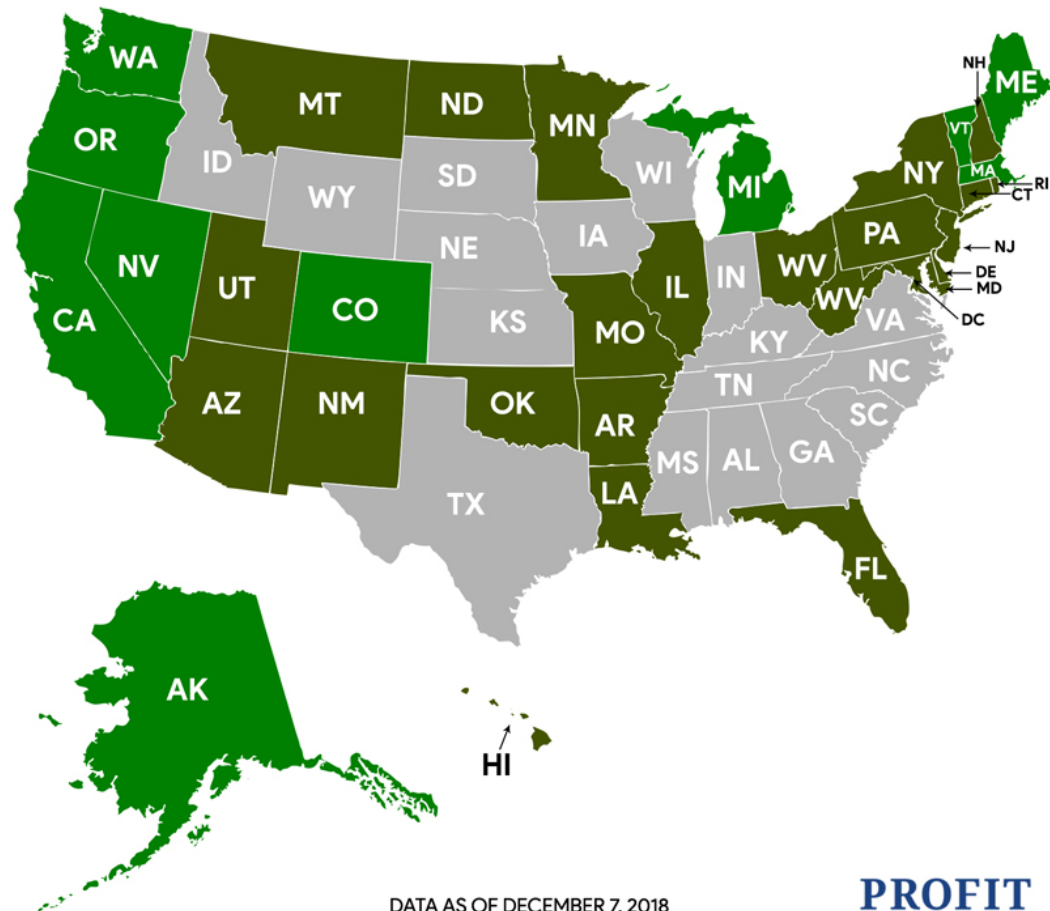




## 6) Cannabis

## U.S. MARIJUANA LEGALIZATION BY STATE

■ MEDICAL ■ RECREATIONAL AND MEDICAL ■ ILLEGAL



## 6) Cannabis

- Speaker of the House Melissa Hortman (DFL) describes the policy issue as a continuum with the following points:
  - Expansion of medical marijuana
  - Decriminalization
  - Legalization
- All parties are open to discussion—but both sides have raised policy concerns about legalization.
- Colorado and Minnesota have roughly same population. Colorado brings in approx. \$250 million annually in tax revenue from marijuana.

## 7) Employment law proposals

- Paid family leave system
- \$15 minimum wage
- Changes to standard for sexual harassment
- Predictive scheduling
- Sick time mandate
- Wage theft prevention
- Prohibition on certain questions in hiring process

## 8) Proposed Regulatory Reform

- Gov. Walz: “Regulatory humility.”
- Proposals to eliminate/modify rulemaking authority of state agencies.



# CLE certificates

Complete the sign in sheet included in the reminder email (sent yesterday) and return to [hubble.michelle@dorsey.com](mailto:hubble.michelle@dorsey.com).

We will send CLE Certificates to those who return the form.

# Questions?



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