



July 14, 2022

Reminder: Registration Open for the 74th VPCMA Annual Meeting September 25-27, The Greenbrier

We hope you will make plans to attend the 74th Annual Meeting being held Sunday, September 25 through Tuesday, September 27th. To take advantage of our great group rate of \$219 you will need to make your reservations by the cut off date of August 26. We have put together a great program of social and educational events that you can access below.

For a full Annual Meeting brochure, [click here](#).
To register with VPCMA, [click here](#).

For hotel reservations, (starting at \$219,) [click here](#).

Reminder: Your Comments Needed To Stop US Food and Drug Administration's Menthol Ban

As we have reported previously, the US Food and Drug Administration is planning to ban menthol cigarettes and flavored cigars. The sole opportunity to reverse these misguided policies is thru comments to the FDA on how the misguided ban will impact your business. Our manufacturer, state, and national partners have assisted in developing these comments for submitting to the FDA opposing the proposed rules. **Convenience Marketers need to submit comments by the August 2nd deadline.**

1. FDA Comments can be submitted to the FDA's Center for Tobacco Products by clicking on these two links below: one for the proposed regulation banning menthol in cigarettes and another for the proposed regulation banning characterizing flavors in cigars.
2. You can copy and submit [these comments](#) (please take out references to VPCMA and include your company specific information such as background information, number of c-stores you operate and number of people you employ).
3. Menthol Ban: <https://www.regulations.gov/commenton/FDA-2021-N-1349-0001>
4. Flavored Cigar Ban: <https://www.regulations.gov/commenton/FDA-2021-N-1309-0001>

As indicated above, the FDA has proposed two separate regulations with one banning menthol in cigarettes and the second one banning flavors, except tobacco flavor, in cigars. The attached comments work for both and need to be submitted to both links.

EMA PAC Contributions

Earlier this week we wrote to the membership requesting your support of the Energy Marketers of America (EMA) Political Action Committee. EMA is a federation of state and regional petroleum marketing associations, and as a member of Virginia Petroleum and Convenience Marketers Association, you are automatically a member of EMA (formerly PMAA).

We depend on the EMA to provide us with important regulatory information emanating from federal agencies that can impede members' ability to compete and thrive in the challenging marketplace facing the industry in 2022. Additionally, EMA's staff are our voice in the halls of Congress, assuring that the concerns of independent petroleum marketers are heard by our congressmen and senators.

Political contributions are important because they allow EMA to serve you better. In addition to meeting requests from our Virginia delegation, the staff carefully targets congressmen and senators who are on key committees impacting petroleum related issues.

Federal requirements mandate that all contributions to the PAC are made with private funds, We hope that you will join us in sending **personal check for \$150.00** made out to "EMA PAC," and send to the office address, 7275 Glen Forest Drive, Suite 204, Richmond, Virginia 23226. We will be recognizing all contributors in upcoming editions of the Update.