



This FANmail is brought to you by: Tamra Kennedy

"It's my job to run my restaurants in my towns"

-- Tamra Kennedy, Taco John's franchisee in MN

Franchise Action Network Annual Meeting 2018 Recap



IFA President and CEO, Robert Cresanti, joins IFA Board Members and attendees from Louisiana at the Capitol during Capitol Hill Day.

Last week, IFA hosted more than 450 IFA members for the Franchise Action Network (FAN) Annual Meeting in Washington, D.C, marking the largest attendance since 2012. Attendees from across the U.S. met with their members of Congress to discuss ongoing franchise issues, specifically, joint employer and tax reform. FANs from 38 states had 267 meetings with Hill offices, including 97 with the member of Congress.

The full photo album can be viewed [here](#).

As part of IFA's speaker line-up, Counselor to President Trump, Kellyanne Conway, took the stage discussing the Administration's economic agenda.



The conversation was moderated by FASTSIGNS International CEO, Catherine Monson (*pictured left with Conway*). Conway touched upon the importance of the joint employer issue and the Administration's support for a solution noting that, "by changing the definition, you by definition change what it means to be a franchise. That definition's vagueness really opens it up to too much subjective interpretation."

Read more [here](#).

IFA's Senior Vice President of Government Relations and Public Affairs, Matt Haller, moderated a panel discussion with former Republican National Committee (RNC) Chair Michael Steele; and former Democratic National Committee (DNC) Chair Donna Brazile. The group discussed the current political and legislative climate, providing perspective from both sides of the aisle.



Sen. Rand Paul (R-Ky.) also provided insight regarding Association Health Plans (AHPs) saying AHPs provide an opportunity to "collectively bargain for the consumer."

Read more [here](#).

IFA Awards 2018 Legislators of the Year



During the FAN Annual meeting, attendees from New Jersey and Florida presented IFA's *Legislator of the Year Award* to Reps. Tom MacArthur (R-N.J.) and Stephanie Murphy (D-Fla.) for supporting a pro-franchising agenda this year. IFA President and CEO Robert Cresanti, acknowledged their work, "we couldn't have found better legislators... Congressman MacArthur and Congresswoman Murphy have been champions for franchise businesses... their willingness to work constructively with their colleagues to find solutions is a testament to the highest ideals of Congress. Franchise

businesses across the country benefit from their leadership, insights, and thoughtfulness.”

Read more [here.](#)

IFA Foundation Honors 2018 Franchising Gives Back Award Winners



The IFA Foundation hosted the annual Franchising Gives Back Celebration and Awards Dinner to kick off the FAN Annual Meeting. The award ceremony acknowledges businesses that team up with charities and nonprofits to give back to their local communities. Since the Franchising Gives Back program began in 2015, IFA members have donated more than \$245 million and 2.3 million hours to nonprofit organizations.

Read more about the award recipients [here.](#)

IFA Presents the 2018 Franchisee of the Year Awards



IFA also honored 56 of the top-performing franchisees during the 2018 Franchisee of

the Year Awards last week. Created to recognize outstanding franchise owner-operators, the Franchisee of the Year Awards are given as part of the Leadership Dinner at the FAN Annual Meeting program.

Read more [here](#).

Missed Franchising's Biggest Advocacy Event? You Can Still Help!

More than 450 IFA members filled the halls of Capitol Hill on Thursday, Sept. 6 as part of the Franchise Action Network Annual Meeting. The meetings with Congress took place after FAN attendees heard various political viewpoints from keynote speakers and took part in franchise advocacy efforts pertaining to Joint Employer, Trademark Protection, and Tax Cuts.

Find out how you can help [here](#).

NLRB Releases Draft on Joint Employer Rulemaking

Today, the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) released a draft [rule](#) that would roll back the controversial *Browning-Ferris Industries* decision, which loosened the board's test for determining whether affiliated businesses qualify as joint employers. The rule, which is set for publication in the Federal Register Friday, proposes that the board will only find a business jointly employs another's workers if it "possesses and exercises substantial, direct and immediate control" over them.

IFA President and CEO, Robert Cresanti [commented](#) on the positive development, "the NLRB's announcement is good news for franchises and franchise employees across the country. Franchise owners have been confused about the vague and uncertain legal minefield created by the NLRB joint employer standard since it was expanded in 2015. Rulemaking is an important step to address the concerns of local business owners by providing the clear lines in the determination of joint-employer status. We look forward to participating in the public notice and comment process in the coming days."

Read more [here](#).

We will need your help submitting comments to the NLRB! Be on the lookout for a FAN alert over the coming days to lend your voice to this important process!

Chairman Chabot and Rep. Cuellar Introduce Bipartisan Legislation to Protect Small Business Trademarks

U.S. House Small Business Committee Chairman Steve Chabot (R-OH) and Rep. Henry Cuellar (D-TX) recently introduced [H.R. 6695](#), the *Trademark Licensing Protection Act of 2018*, which clarifies that licensing trademarks, and controlling or exercising those trademarks, do not create an employment relationship.

The legislation would resolve legal contradictions for franchisors and franchisees by clarifying the competing laws that require a brand to preserve its federally-registered trademark through brand controls, but at the same time, penalize them from exercising such controls under new "joint employer" rules. Read more [here](#).

Text **TRADEMARK to 52886** to let your members of Congress know to support this legislation to provide critical protection for franchising.

In the News

[Labor Department to Clarify Franchise Rule, Acosta Says \(1\)](#), *Bloomberg*
[Businesses Pressure States to Allow Small-Business Health Plans](#), *Bloomberg*

[House Republicans Unveil Tax-Cut Bill Ahead of Election Push](#), *Bloomberg*
[Sen. Rand Paul Wants Costco-Sized Small Business Health Plans](#), *Bloomberg*
[Obama-Era Franchise Rule Undercuts Trump Labor Policies: Conway](#), *Bloomberg*
[House Lawmakers Float New Joint Employer Bill](#), *Law 360*
[Joint Employer Still a Key Issue for IFA on Capitol Hill](#), *Franchise Times*
[Business Groups Urge Senate to Block Trump Labor Board Nominee](#), *Wall Street Journal*
[Is Chuck Schumer Sabotaging Trump's Jobs Agenda?](#), *Forbes*
[Trump Signs Executive Order on Retirement Savings](#), *Wall Street Journal*

Tweets of the Week:

[Congratulations to all of our Franchising Gives Back award winners for their extraordinary work in their communities](#)

[.@MichaelSteele and @donnabrazile join IFA's @matthewhaller on stage during this morning's Political Analysis Session! #FAN2018](#)

[IFA is proud to present Rep. Stephanie Murphy with the 2018 Legislator of the Year Award. She is one of the most effective and bipartisan advocates on Capitol Hill!](#)
[.@RepStephMurphy](#)

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Featured FAN: Tamra Kennedy



Tamra owns and operates 9 Taco John's franchises in Minnesota and Iowa. Her 32 year career path took her from secretary to owner via working nights in the restaurants while studying accounting and managing the bookkeeping for the previous owner. She believes that the powerful combination of People, Planning, and Passion is the key to thriving in tomorrow's marketplace. Tamra is proud to support the IFA platform of promoting the franchising model through education and advocacy initiatives.

Franchising Facts - Did You Know?

95% of new franchisees are still in business after 5 years.

