



*Advocating the views of convenience stores, supermarkets,
independent grocers, wholesalers and consumer product vendors.*

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PFMA's Veteran Food Industry Executive, Randy St. John, to Retire in 2012

Camp Hill, Pennsylvania — Randy St. John, senior vice president of association services, has announced plans to retire from the Pennsylvania Food Merchants Association (PFMA). He will conclude his full-time duties at the end of the year.

St. John joined the association in July 1989 as vice president of membership development. His role within the association has grown over the past 23 years to include lobbying for the association in Harrisburg and representing the memberships' interests in state regulatory issues. In his early career, he supervised PFMA's trade show and annual conference along with the monthly newspaper, the *Food Industry Advisor*. He also led membership development and the association's educational programs.

"Randy has been an exceptional advocate for the food industry," said David McCorkle, PFMA president and CEO. "His dedication to the interests of supermarkets, convenience stores, and consumer products companies has kept our government officials in-tune with the industry and the unique issues our members face each day."

St. John helped form the Scanning Certification Program in 1991 to provide retailers with guidelines to achieve and maintain a high level of price accuracy in their stores. Several years later, he worked with the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) to help them develop guidelines for state weights and measures personnel to inspect scanners. The program has received national attention for its proactive approach to price accuracy issues.

Beginning in 2005, St. John took over the direct lobbying responsibilities to represent PFMA's members at the state Capitol. He was involved in the passage of a food safety bill, which brought uniformity statewide to food regulations. He also worked on the passage of a fire-safe cigarettes bill, which saved members thousands of dollars by extending the time they had to sell out non fire-safe cigarettes.

He worked with Senator John Rafferty to craft a beer bill, which would have allowed grocery stores to buy existing restaurant licenses, thus enabling them to sell beer.

For the last two years, St. John has been heavily involved with discussions at the state Capitol about privatization of the state store system, and he has worked actively to represent the interests of PFMA members on this issue.

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St. John to Retire in 2012

Louie Sheetz, PFMA Chairman, will lead a five-person committee to select St. John's replacement by year-end.

"Randy's success has been characterized by his thorough preparation for all assignments and his communication skills. He will consult with the association in 2013 to assist PFMA in implementing our legislative plan for the 2013-14 legislative session," McCorkle said.

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The Pennsylvania Food Merchants Association is a statewide trade association representing more than 1,100 retail food stores, wholesale distributors and other associated business members throughout Pennsylvania.