

Saving Hospitality While Reopening Illinois

Illinois' Hospitality Industry Matters:

- The hospitality industry employs an estimated 594,500 people, of which, more than 321,000 employees have been laid off due to the Covid-19 mandatory closures.
- Restaurants have seen a catastrophic reduction of over 80% in sales since the March 17th closure.
- The beverage alcohol industry has lost 98% of its on-premise (restaurants & bars) business during this time resulting in a substantial loss of revenue and profits.
- The hospitality industry continues to take additional Illinois Department of Public Health recommended action to protect employees and customers. Their health and safety remain the #1 priority and will be protected during reopening.
- Restaurants desperately need rapid action by the government to have a sustainable chance at survival.

Immediate Action is Needed to Save the Hospitality Industry:

- The greater hospitality industry supports Governor Pritzker's multi-phased and data-driven regional approach to reopening Illinois but urgently request two modifications to ensure a vibrant and sustainable hospitality community:
 1. We encourage the Governor to re-classify restaurants under "Phase 3" to allow dine in service with established Illinois Department of Public Health recommended guidance.
 2. We encourage the Governor to include representation from the General Assembly and the hospitality industry as part of a working group focused on reopening Illinois.