October 9, 2018

The Honorable Steven Mnuchin Secretary U.S. Department of the Treasury 1500 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20220 CC:PA:LPD:PR (REG-104397-18) Room 5203 Internal Revenue Service P.O. Box 7604 Ben Franklin Station Washington, DC 20044

ATTN: IRS (REG—104397—18)

Additional First Year Depreciation Deduction (RIN 1545-BO74)

Dear Secretary Mnuchin:

The undersigned companies and associations appreciate this opportunity to comment on the Internal Revenue Service's ("IRS") proposed regulations on Internal Revenue Code ("Code") § 168(k), as amended by the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, Pub. L. 115-97 ("H.R. 1"). We urge the IRS to utilize this rulemaking to issue interim guidance on the drafting errors in H.R. 1 pertaining to depreciation of qualified improvement property ("QIP"). Consistent with Congress's intent and H.R. 1's Joint Explanatory Statement on depreciation recovery periods (and relatedly, bonus depreciation eligibility) for QIP, such guidance should *allow taxpayers – pending enactment of technical corrections legislation – to apply 15-year Modified Accelerated Cost Recovery System* ("MACRS") and 20-year Alternative Depreciation System ("ADS") recovery periods for QIP.

There is no dispute that Congress intended to assign QIP a 15-year MACRS recovery period and a 20-year ADS recovery period. In addition to the Joint Explanatory Statement affirming as much, H.R. 1 was scored as if the 15- and 20-year assignments were made. Further, these QIP drafting errors are among the few provisions in H.R. 1 identified by the Joint Committee on Taxation as needing true "technical corrections."

Attached is an August 16, 2018 letter from all Republican members of the Senate Finance Committee to the IRS confirming congressional intent regarding the treatment of QIP and notifying the IRS that they plan to introduce technical corrections legislation to address the errors. The purpose of the letter, it states, is to ensure that the IRS's position on these QIP provisions is consistent with Congress's intent. Also attached is a letter from sixteen Democratic senators to Secretary Mnuchin urging the Treasury Department to address the QIP errors in a manner consistent with the Joint Explanatory Statement and H.R. 1's score through guidance.

Without such guidance from the IRS – until Congress is able to pass technical corrections legislation – businesses investing in upgrades will be worse off from a cash flow and tax exposure perspective than they were pre-tax reform (when 40 percent bonus depreciation would have applied to all QIP, and restaurant, retail and leasehold properties would have had a 15-year,

¹ Internal Revenue Service, Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, *Additional First Year Depreciation Deduction*, 83 Fed. Reg. 39292 (Aug. 8, 2018).

rather than a 39-year, recovery period for QIP). We have attached a letter from more than 200 businesses and trade groups to Secretary Mnuchin explaining the impact these errors are having – and will continue to have – on a variety of industries and asking the Treasury Department to issue guidance consistent with congressional intent as soon as possible to ensure that American businesses and workers are not unduly penalized by these drafting mistakes. Specific examples of negative consequences associated with these errors include, among others:, *inter alia*:

- Significant cash flow disruptions for businesses—especially small businesses and franchisees (who are often obligated to remodel on a particular schedule)—that have already planned and committed to substantial renovation projects, which may result in these businesses having to make trade-offs in other areas such as hiring and employee pay/benefits;
- Delays in store and restaurant remodeling projects and, by extension, a negative impact on these businesses' ability to attract customers and compete with newer market entrants; moreover, this creates safety concerns because, in some cases, installations of sprinkler systems also are delayed (creating a more perilous situation in the case of fire);
- Loss of construction jobs associated with commercial renovation projects;
- Businesses refraining from purchasing or leasing vacant stores or other leasehold spaces that require improvements, which means foregoing *permanent jobs* that would be generated with new businesses moving in and other benefits of revitalizing our communities;
- Hampering of building owners' ability to offer "improvement dollars" in their lease terms to retain existing commercial tenants or attract new tenants;
- Declining sales for QIP product suppliers (e.g., lighting and other improvements), including high-quality products manufactured in the U.S.; and
- Less investment in energy-efficient QIP products, which save businesses substantial costs in the long term (as much as 50-90 percent through upgraded lighting and controls alone) and reduce energy consumption.

These consequences – albeit unintended – are contrary to the Administration's goals of creating jobs, increasing investment, and promoting economic growth via meaningful tax reform.

Based on the foregoing, we again urge you to quickly provide guidance clarifying that IRS enforcement of these QIP provisions will follow Congressional intent and that taxpayers filing returns for fiscal year 2018 may take a position consistent with that intent.

Sincerely,

Aaron's Abercrombie & Fitch Co. Acuity Brands, Inc. Advanced Auto Parts, Inc. Ahold Delhaize USA Alabama Grocers Association Algoma Piggly Wiggly Alliance Data American Eagle Outfitters, Inc. Arizona Food Marketing Alliance

Arkansas Grocers and Retail Association

Arnav Enterprises, LLC

Associated Builders and Contractors

Associated General Contractors of America Association of Kentucky Fried Chicken

Franchisees (AKFCF)
Auto Zone, Inc.
B & R Stores, Inc.
B. Green & Co., Inc.
Bailey's General Store

Baker's Management, Inc.

Beall's Inc.

Best Buy Co., Inc.

Big Lots

Big Y Foods, Inc. BKT Enterprises Inc Blackford Foods Brinker International Buehlers Fresh Foods

Building Owners and Managers Association

(BOMA) International

Casler, Inc.

Collins Family Markets Inc Columbiana Foods Inc.

Congressional Fire Services Institute

Connecticut Food Association

Cookies Food Products Corning Mini Mart Cox's Foodarama Inc. Cranfords Fresh

Crate & Barrel Holdings Inc. and

Subsidiaries

CRE Finance Council

CVS Health

Daniels Foods, Inc. Dan's Food Center

Dave's Supermarket, Inc.

Denny's Inc.

Dick's Sporting Goods Dierbergs Markets, Inc.

Dillard's Inc. Doc's Foods Stores Don's Food Center

Dorothy Lane Market, Inc.

Dunkin' Brands

Eaton

Eickhoff's ShopRite Supermarkets

El Rio Grande Latin Market

Express Inc.

Fareway Stores Inc.

Fiesta Foods

Fitzgerald's Foods Florida Retail Federation

Food Giant

Food Marketing Institute

Food Parade inc. G.E. Foodland, Inc. Garafalo Markets

Geissler's Super Market

Georgia Food Industry Association

Georgia Retail Association

GF Buche Co. Glass Gardens

Godin's Piggly Wiggly

Gongco Foods

Gooseberries Fresh Food Market

Grolmus Enterprises Hansen's IGA

Harps Food Stores, Inc.

Healthy's, Inc.

Henderson's IGA, Inc. Hi Nabor Supermarket, LLC Highland Park Market Hoyt Lakes IGA

Hy-Vee

Idyllwild Village Market

IKEA North America Services, LLC Illinois Food Retailers Association Indiana Grocery Group, LLC

International Association of Fire Chiefs Iowa Grocery Industry Association

Island Market, Inc.

J.C. Penney Company, Inc. Janssen's Market LLC Jerry's Enterprises, Inc. Jo-Ann Stores, LLC

John Brooks Supermarkets

JW's Foods, Inc

Kaune's Neighborhood Market

Keith's Foods Inc.

Kellogg Co.

Kentucky Grocers & Convenince Store

Assc.

Knowlan's Super Markets, Inc.

Kocian's Family Market

Kramer Foods
LaBonne's Markets
Lamb's Fresh Market
Levi Strauss & Co.
Lisbon Foods, Inc.

Little Caesar Enterprises, Inc.

Lomira Piggly Wiggly

Louisiana Retailers Association

Lowe's Market

Lund Food Holdings, Inc. Mackenthun's Fine Foods

Macy's, Inc.

Maryland Retailers Association Massachusetts Food Association

Maurer's Market

McKinnon's Supermarkets

Midwest Independent Retailers Association

Miner's Inc.

Minnesota Grocers Association

Mississippi Retail & Grocers Association

Misslers IGA

Missouri Grocers Association Missouri Retailers Association

Monnats Country Store

Mt. Plymouth IGA Fresh Market NAIOP, the Commercial Real Estate

Development Association

National Association of Convenience Stores

(NACS)

National Association of Theatre Owners

National Electrical Manufacturers

Association

National Fire Sprinkler Association (NFSA)

National Grocers Association National Restaurant Association National Retail Federation

Nebraska Grocery Industry Association, Inc.

Nebraska Retail Federation Neiman Marcus Group Nemenz Food Stores

New Hampshire Grocers Association

New Jersey Food Council

New Jersey Retail Merchants Association

NG Management Inc Niemann Foods, Inc.

Nilssen's

North Dakota Petroleum Marketers

Association

North Dakota Propane Gas Association

North Dakota Retail Association

North Main IGA

North State Grocery, Inc. Northwest Grocery Association

Nugget Market, LLC Nutricion Fundametal, Inc.

Ochab Corporation

Ohio Grocers Association Oklahoma Grocers Association Ozark Empire Grocers Association

Pennsylvania Food Merchants Association

Pennsylvania Retailers Association

Petco Animal Supplies, Inc.

PetSmart, Inc.
Philbee Foods
Pruett's Food

Puckett's Food Stores, Inc. R & S Supermarket, LLC Randys Neighborhood Markets

Red Rock Resorts

Rehkopf Enterprises, Inc.

REM Markets

Retail Association of Maine Retail Association of Nevada

Retail Industry Leaders Association

RI Food Dealers Association

Ried's Markets, Inc.

Rite Aid

Rivers Marketplace, Inc.

Roselynn, Inc. Ross Stores, Inc. Roth's Fresh Markets Roy's Hometown Grocery

Rush Foods, Inc. S & R Quisberg Inc. Sendik's Food Markets Shoppers Value Foods

ShopRite of Hunterdon County

ShopRite of New London

Shugar's

Signify (formerly Philips Lighting)

Snyder Foods, LLC

Sonic Corp. Stepherson, Inc.

Steve DeYoung's Big Top Market

Stormans, Inc.
Super One Foods

Superb Super Markets, Inc. Supermarket Operations, Inc.

Tarbell & Company Target Corporation Teal's Market

Texas Roadhouse, Inc.

The Cheesecake Factory Incorporated

The Fresh Grocer The Home Depot The Kroger Co.

The Market of Madrid
The Michaels Companies
The Real Estate Roundtable

The Roberts Co., Inc.
The Save Mart Companies

The TJX Companies, Inc. The Wendy's Company

Thoman Brothers Super Market, Inc.

Thompson's IGA Foods Tractor Supply Company Treppendahl's Super Foods

Trig's

URM Stores, Inc.

Utah Food Industry Association Utah Retail Merchants Association

Vallarta Supermarkets Viking Village Foods, Inc.

Virginia Retail Merchants Association

W.S. Badcock Corporation Wakefern Food Corp

Walla Walla Harvest Foods

Washington Food Industry Association

Wayne's Piggly Wiggly Western Supermarkets

Windham IGA

Wisconsin Grocers Association

Witt's Piggly Wiggly Wray's Incorporated Yum Brands, Inc.

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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6200

JEFFREY WRASE, STAFF DIRECTOR AND CHIEF ECONOMIST JOSHUA SHEINKMAN, DEMOCRATIC STAFF DIRECTOR

August 16, 2018

The Honorable Steven T. Mnuchin Secretary of the Treasury Department of the Treasury 1500 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW Washington, D.C. 20220

The Honorable David J. Kautter
Assistant Secretary of the Treasury for Tax Policy and
Acting Commissioner of the Internal Revenue Service
Internal Revenue Service
1111 Constitution Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20224

Dear Secretary Mnuchin and Acting Commissioner Kautter:

We are writing as the Members of one of the Committees of jurisdiction responsible for the drafting of the tax-reform legislation that was enacted on December 22, 2017 (H.R. 1, 115th Cong., 1st Sess., Pub. L. 115-97). We write to clarify the congressional intent of this recently enacted tax legislation (specifically, sections 13204, 13302, and 13307 of H.R. 1), which is reflected in the conference report, revenue estimates, and other legislative history.

While this letter focuses on these three important provisions, we are continuing a thorough review of Pub. L. No. 115-97 to identify other instances in which the language as enacted may require regulatory guidance or technical corrections to reflect the intent of the Congress. After this review, we intend to introduce technical corrections legislation to address any items identified in the on-going review.

Section 13204 of H.R. 1 provides rules related to the depreciation of real property. We have identified a technical correction that is necessary to reflect the legislative intent with respect to this provision. Specifically, in eliminating the separate definitions of qualified leasehold improvement, qualified restaurant, and qualified retail improvement property and providing a new single definition of qualified improvement property, the language in section 13204(a) failed to designate qualified improvement property as 15-year property under the modified accelerated cost recovery system ("MACRS"). In addition, there is a typographical error in a cross-reference identifying qualified improvement property as property which is recovered over 20 years under the alternative depreciation

system ("ADS"). Congressional intent was to provide a 15-year MACRS recovery period and a 20-year ADS recovery period for qualified improvement property. Such intent is set forth in the Conference Report to accompany H.R. 1 (H.R. Rep. 115-466, at p. 366).

Section 13302 of H.R. 1 modifies the rules governing the deduction of net operating losses ("NOLs"). We have identified a technical correction that is necessary to reflect the legislative intent with respect to this provision. Specifically, section 13302(e)(2) includes language stating that the modifications made to NOL carryforwards and carrybacks apply to net operating losses arising in taxable years *ending* after December 31, 2017. Congressional intent was to provide that the NOL carryforward and carryback modifications are effective for NOLs arising in taxable years beginning after December 31, 2017. Such intent is set forth in the Conference Report to accompany H.R. 1 (H.R. Rep. 115-466, at p. 394).

Section 13307 of H.R. 1 denies a deduction for (1) any settlement or payment related to sexual harassment or sexual abuse if such settlement or payment is subject to a nondisclosure agreement ("NDA"), or (2) attorney's fees related to such a settlement or payment. We have identified a technical correction that is necessary to reflect the legislative intent with respect to this provision. Specifically, the provision arguably prohibits the recipient of any payment from deducting legal fees incurred in pursuing sexual harassment cases, because such legal fees are "related to" a settlement or payment that is subject to a NDA. Congressional intent was that these attorney's fees would not be subject to this rule.

We send this letter to provide sufficient clarification so that any guidance that is issued related to sections 13204, 13302, and 13307 of H.R. 1 (Pub. L. No. 115-97) and the Internal Revenue Service's enforcement of them reflects the Congress' intent. Thank you for your cooperation on this matter.

Sincerely,

Orrin Hatch

Chairman

Michael &. Engi Michael Enzi John Cornyn John Thune Richard Burr Johnny Isakson Rob Portman Patrick Toomey Bill Cassidy



September 24, 2018

The Honorable Steven T. Mnuchin Secretary of the Treasury Department of the Treasury 1500 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20220

As the Treasury Department continues implementation of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, we write to raise concern regarding the depreciation treatment of qualified improvement property. Improper implementation of this portion of the 2017 law would cause disruption to a wide range of industries, including the nation's retail, restaurant, and commercial property industries. Collectively, the impacted industries support millions of jobs nationwide and their economic impact is significant.

As the 2017 tax law takes effect, business across the country are now making critical investment decisions based on both professional guidance on the interpretation of the tax law and on guidance from the Treasury. Some businesses in our communities, including restaurants and retail establishments, are concerned that the tax law unintentionally changed the depreciation schedule for qualified improvement property to 39 years.

Made permanent in the bipartisan 2015 PATH Act, a 15-year recovery period was maintained for improvements to certain commercial properties, including restaurant, retail, and leasehold spaces. A lengthened 39-year depreciation schedule does not reflect the reality that small businesses renovate and improve their structures far more frequently, and makes property renovation and rehabilitation significantly more expensive and less likely to occur.

In the Conference Agreement that accompanied the 2017 tax law, it is stated that qualified improvement property has a 15-year recovery period and the score from the Joint Committee on Taxation assumed this fact as well. Given this, and the potential for considerable harm to local economies, we believe it would be prudent for Treasury to address this issue and its interpretation through guidance.

Sincerely,

Doug Jones United States Senator

Angus . King, Jr. Unites States Senator

Joe Donnelly

United States Senator



United States Senator

United States Senator

United States Senator

Jeanne Shaheen **United States Senator**

Tim Kaine **United States Senator**

Tammy Dukworth United States Senator

Tina Smith **United States Senator**

United States Senator

Margaret Wood Hassan United States Senator

Joe Manchin III United States Senator

Gary C. Peters United States Senator

Catherine Cortez Masto **United States Senator**

Amy Klobuchar United States Senator The Honorable Steven Mnuchin Secretary U.S. Department of the Treasury 1500 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20220

Dear Secretary Mnuchin:

The undersigned organizations urge the Treasury Department to issue interim guidance with respect to drafting errors that were made to the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act ("Act") -- provisions dealing with qualified improvement property ("QIP") and net operating losses ("NOL"). The signatories to this letter may have an interest in one but not necessarily both of the provisions but recognize the need to have them both resolved on an expeditious basis. The delay in correcting these provisions has caused economic hardship for some retailers, restaurants, members of the real estate industry, and suppliers of building products, and is also delaying investments across the economy that impact the communities in which these companies are doing business. This also results in safety concerns because, in some cases, it is causing a delay in upgrading existing sprinkler systems, creating a more perilous situation for our nation's firefighters.

At the outset, it is important to note that it is widely acknowledged that both the QIP and NOL provisions contain unintended drafting errors such that the provisions do not currently operate consistent with Congressional intent – there are no policy or technical objections suggesting that these drafting errors should not be corrected.

The drafting error in the QIP provision causes improvements to buildings to be written off over 39 years instead of one year as contemplated under the Act. As a result, a taxpayer gets to write off only 2.5% of their improvement costs in the year the expenditures are made, and 97.5% over the remaining 38 years, instead of writing off 100% of the cost in the year the expenditures are made. This very large difference in the after-tax cost of making improvements is causing a delay in some store and restaurant remodeling projects, as well as causing some retailers to decline opportunities to purchase or lease new store locations that would require substantial improvements. These decisions not only deny communities the jobs associated with substantial construction projects, but also deny our communities the opportunity to bring new, permanent jobs to an otherwise abandoned store or to revitalize a declining mall. The delayed investment in remodeling projects is also causing a decline in sales by manufacturers that supply products used in remodels, like energy-efficient lighting and plumbing supplies.

The drafting error in the NOL provision imposes a retroactive tax increase on businesses that are in loss positions and already facing liquidity issues. The error in the effective date of the provision that eliminates NOL carrybacks means that businesses that were expecting a carryback for their tax years that began in 2017, before it was known if tax reform would pass and which tax code provisions would be modified by tax reform, will not be receiving the cash that is owed them until some time in the future. This timing difference is critical to cash-strapped businesses

that were counting on the carryback to finance continuing operations, as well as investments needed to revitalize their businesses.

We urge the Treasury Department to issue guidance that will assure that these provisions are administered as intended by Congress, avoiding the need for amended returns and releasing associated economic activity. At a minimum, such guidance should provide that the Internal Revenue Service will not challenge taxpayers who take positions with respect to the QIP and NOL provisions that are consistent with Congressional intent. If guidance is not issued by November 15, 2018, the extended due date for FY 2017 tax returns for most retailers, the retail signatories on this letter will have to file thousands of amended federal, state and local income tax returns when the provision is later clarified. They will also need to re-book the qualified improvement property assets in their Fixed Asset Management Systems, which may require hundreds of additional man hours of work for each business. The additional regulatory burdens associated with further delay of guidance with respect to these provisions are antithetical to the policy behind Executive Order 13789, requesting the Treasury Department to reduce tax regulatory burdens.

We urge you to issue guidance that will facilitate the intent of the law and eliminate the imposition of large additional tax compliance and accounting burdens on taxpayers, as well as associated tax enforcement burdens on the Internal Revenue Service.

Sincerely,

Aaron's

Abercrombie & Fitch Co.

Acuity Brands Lighting Inc.

Advanced Auto Parts, Inc.

Ahold Delhaize USA

Air-Conditioning, Heating and Refrigeration Institute

Alabama Grocers Association

Alabama Grocers Association

Alabama Retail Association

Algoma Piggly Wiggly

Alliance Data

Alliance to Save Energy

American Institute of Architects (AIA)

American Sale

Arizona Food Marketing Alliance

Arizona Retailers Association

Arkansas Grocers and Retail Association

Arnav Enterprises, LLC

Associated Builders & Contractors

Associated General Contractors of America

Association of Kentucky Fried Chicken Franchisees

B & R Stores, Inc.

B. Green & Co., Inc.

Bailey's General Store

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Beall's, Inc.

Bed Bath & Beyond Inc.

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Big Lots

Big Y Foods, Inc.

BKT Enterprises Inc

Blackford Foods

Brea Bead Works

Buehlers Fresh Foods

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Charming Charlie

Church's Chicken

Collins Family Markets Inc

Columbiana Foods Inc.

Completely Kentucky, Inc.

Congressional Fire Service Institute

Connecticut Food Association

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Corning Mini Mart

Cox's Foodarama Inc.

Cranfords Fresh

Crate & Barrel Holdings Inc.

Cumberland Farms Inc.

Daniels Foods, Inc.

Dan's Food Center

Darden Restaurants, Inc.

Dave's Supermarket, Inc.

Denny's

Dick's Sporting Goods

Dierbergs Markets, Inc.

Dillard's, Inc.

Doc's Foods Stores

Don's Food Center

Dorothy Lane Market, Inc.

Dover

Dunkin' Brands

Dunkin' Donuts Independent Franchise Owners Association

Eaton

Eickhoff's ShopRite Supermarkets

El Rio Grande Latin Market

Express Inc.

Fareway Stores Inc.

Fiesta Foods

Firehouse Subs

Fitzgerald's Foods

Food Giant

Food Marketing Institute

Food Parade inc.

Franchise Business Services

G.E. Foodland, Inc.

Garafalo Markets

GE Foodland, Inc

Geissler's Super Market

Georgia Food Industry Association

GF Buche Co.

Glass Gardens

Godin's Piggly Wiggly

Gongco Foods

Gooseberries Fresh Food Market

Grolmus Enterprises

Gymboree Group

Hansen's IGA

Harps Food Stores, Inc.

Healthy's, Inc.

Heating Air-conditioning & Refrigeration Distributors International (HARDI)

Henderson's IGA, Inc.

Hi Nabor Supermarket, LLC

Highland Park Market

Hill Phoenix

Hobby Lobby Stores, Inc.

Home Furnishings Association

Hoyt Lakes IGA

Hy-Vee

Idaho Lodging & Restaurant Association

Idaho Retailers Association

Idyllwild Village Market

IKEA North America Services, LLC

Illinois Food Retailers Association

Illuminating Engineering Society

Independent Organization of Little Caesar Franchises

Indiana Grocery Group, LLC

Inspire Brands

International Association of Fire Chiefs

International Association of Kumon Franchisees

International Council of Shopping Centers

Iowa Grocery Industry Association

Island Market, Inc.

J.C. Penney Company, Inc.

Jack In the Box, Inc.

Janssen's Market LLC

Jerry's Enterprises, Inc.

John Brooks Supermarkets

JW's Foods, Inc

Kaune's Neighborhood Market

Keith's Foods Inc.

Kellogg Co.

Kentucky Grocers & Convenince Store Assc.

Knowlan's Super Markets, Inc.

Kocian's Family Market

Kramer Foods

LaBonne's Markets

Lamb's Fresh Market

Legrand, North America

Levi Straus & Co.

Limited Brands, Inc.

Lisbon Foods, Inc.

Lomira Piggly Wiggly

Louisiana Retailers Association

Lowe's Market

Lund Food Holdings, Inc.

Mackenthun's Fine Foods

Macy's, Inc.

Maine Franchise Owners Association

Maryland Retailers Association

Massachusetts Food Association

Maurer's Market

McDonald's Corporation

McKinnon's Supermarkets

Midwest Independent Retailers Association

Miner's Inc.

Minnesota Grocers Association

Mississippi Retail & Grocers Association

Misslers IGA

Missouri Grocers Association

Missouri Retailers Association

Monnats Country Store

Mt. Plymouth IGA Fresh Market

NAIOP, the Commercial Real Estate Development Association

National Association of Convenience Stores (NACS)

National Association of Electrical Distributors (NAED)

National Association of Theater Owners

National Council of Chain Restaurants

National Electrical Manfactureres Association

National Federation of Independent Business (NFIB)

National Fire Sprinkler Association

National Franchisee Association

National Grocers Association

National Restaurant Association

National Retail Federation

Nebraska Grocery Industry Association, Inc.

Nebraska Retail Federation

Neiman Marcus Group, Inc.

Nemenz Food Stores

New Hampshire Grocers Association

New Jersey Food Council

New Jersey Retail Merchants Association

NG Management Inc

Niemann Foods, Inc.

Nilssen's

Nordstrom, Inc.

North American Association of Subway Franchisees

North Carolina Retail Merchants Association

North Dakota Petroleum Marketers Association

North Dakota Propane Gas Association

North Dakota Retail Association

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Northwest Grocery Association

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Nutricion Fundametal, Inc.

Ochab Corporation

Ohio Council of Retail Merchants

Ohio Grocers Association

Oklahoma Grocers Association

Ozark Empire Grocers Association

Pennsylvania Food Merchants Association

Pennsylvania Retailers' Association

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PetSmart, Inc.

Philbee Foods

Pier 1 Imports, Inc.

Planet Fitness Independent Franchisee Association

Pruett's Food

Puckett's Food Stores, Inc.

R & S Supermarket, LLC

Randys Neighborhood Markets

Real Estate Roundtable

Red Lobster Seafood Co.

Red Rock Resorts, Inc.

Rehkopf Enterprises, Inc.

REM Markets

Retail Association of Maine

Retail Association of Nevada

Retail Industry Leaders Association

Retailers Association of Massachusetts

RI Food Dealers Association

Ried's Markets, Inc.

Rite Aid

Rivers Marketplace, Inc.

Roselynn Inc

Ross Stores, Inc.

Roth's Fresh Markets

Roy's Hometown Grocery

Rush Foods, Inc.

S & R Quisberg Inc.

Save Mart Companies

Sendik's Food Markets

Shoppers Value Foods

ShopRite of Hunterdon County

ShopRite of New London

Shugar's

Signify

Snyder Foods, LLC

Sonic Corp.

South Dakota Retailers Association

South Florida Franchise Owners Association of 7-11

Southern California Local Bead Store Association

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Stepherson, Inc.

Steve DeYoung's Big Top Market

Stormans, Inc.

Super One Foods

Superb Super Markets, Inc

Supermarket Operations Inc.

Taco John's International Inc.

Tarbell & Company

Teal's Market

Texas Retailers Association

Texas Roadhouse

The Cheesecake Factory, Incorporated

The Fresh Grocer

The Home Depot

The Kroger Co.

The Market of Madrid

The Michaels Companies

The National Coalition of Associations of 7-11 Franchisees

The Roberts Co., Inc.

The TJX Companies, Inc

The UPS Store Owners Franchisee Association

The Wendy's Company

The Willis Music Company

Thoman Brothers Super Market, Inc.

Thompson's IGA Foods

Tractor Supply Company

Treppendahl's Super Foods

Trig's

Unified Brands

URM Stores, Inc.

Utah Food Industry Association

Utah Retail Merchants Association

Vallarta Supermarkets

Viking Village Foods, Inc.

Virginia Retail Merchants Association

Waffle House Inc.

Wakefern Food Corp

Walla Walla Harvest Foods

Washington Food Industry Association

Wayne's Piggly Wiggly

Western Supermarkets

White Castle System, Inc

Windham IGA

Wisconsin Grocers Association

Witt's Piggly Wiggly

Wray's Incorporated

Wright's Jewelers, Inc.

Yum! Brands, Inc.