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From: <info@mnreva.org>

Date: Fri, Dec 6, 2019 at 12:35 PM

Subject: URGENT: MN Rural Event Venue Legislation

To: {COMPLIANT VENUE}

Hi {COMPLIANT VENUE},

Thank you for taking my call and talking with me about everything. I greatly appreciate your perspective and input. Just for any future reference you might need, I am attaching an email/paper trail of all the correspondence from the state since 2017 up to the newly proposed legislation so it can be easily accessible in one place. I also wanted to note that if the legislation is passed, based on the documents we have access to, the fire marshal will be responsible for enforcing these fire and building code changes, not local authorities. Since the new proposed occupancy load will be calculated based on 7 square feet/person instead of 15 square feet, all of our maximum occupancy loads or max capacities will be changed. It seems as though the fire marshal will be given the ability to shift our Assembly group classification to align with the new code requirement. It is not 100% clear yet of the roles and scope. I can certainly keep you updated in the future if you want, or if you hear of anything new, we would greatly appreciate an update. Thanks again and have a great holiday season!

Thank you,
Adam & Monique Wallis (Owners, Bloom Lake Barn)



Minnesota Rural Event Venue Association

C: 651.808.2322 | info@MNReva.org | www.MNReva.org

1)

The 2017 Omnibus Jobs Bill included a provision (text pasted below) that adds places of public accommodation to the State Building Code. It includes special event center in the definition of a place of public accommodation, and requires the State Fire Marshal to review plans and inspect facilities. That bill became law.

<<https://www.revisor.mn.gov/laws/2017/0/Session+Law/Chapter/94/>>

"2017 Laws of Minnesota, Chapter 94, Article 2, Section 4.

[326B.108] PLACES OF PUBLIC ACCOMMODATION SUBJECT TO CODE.

Subdivision 1.

Definition.

For purposes of this section, "place of public accommodation" means a publicly or privately

owned facility that is designed for occupancy by 200 or more people and includes a sports or entertainment arena, stadium, theater, community or convention hall, special event center, indoor amusement facility or water park, or swimming pool.

Subd. 2.

Application.

Construction, additions, and alterations to a place of public accommodation must be designed and constructed to comply with the State Building Code.

Subd. 3.

Enforcement.

In a municipality that has not adopted the code by ordinance under section 326B.121, subdivision 2, the commissioner shall enforce this section in accordance with section 326B.107, subdivision 1.

Subd. 4.

Fire protection systems.

If fire protection systems regulated by chapter 299M are required in a place of public accommodation, then those plan reviews and inspections shall be conducted by the state fire marshal."

2)

In 2017 many venues received "FACT SHEET: Wedding Barns and the Building Code" via mail. Please see attachment titled "fs_wedding-barns"

3)

NEW BILL INTRODUCED IN 2018

It was heard in the House Public Safety Committee. A clone bill was heard in the House Jobs Committee. Neither of those bills became law and died when the Legislature adjourned in 2018.

<<https://www.house.leg.state.mn.us/SessionDaily/Story/13182>>

4)

Representative Howe was elected to the Senate in 2018 and introduced a bill, SF1839, earlier this year that is related to fire protection systems. This bill would give the State Fire Marshal authority to enforce the fire protection systems components of the Labor and Industry building codes and redirects the associated portion of the permit fee to the Fire Marshal's office.

<https://www.revisor.mn.gov/bills/text.php?number=SF1839&version=latest&session=ls91&session_year=2019&session_number=0>

5)

In July, 2018 many venues received a mailing from MN Dept of Public Safety. Please see attachment titled "letter-1".

6)

In October of 2019, many venues received a survey via mail from the MN Dept of Public Safety. Please see attachment titled "October Cover Letter and Survey-1".

A list of venues to contact was given to the state of MN by other venue owners. Please see attachment titled "Event Center Address Mailing List." The list is not complete and will include many that are missing.

7)

PROPOSED LEGISLATION

Below is a link to the draft of the upcoming legislation that will impact all rural event venues.

<https://www.revisor.mn.gov/bills/text.php?number=SF2514&version=latest&session=ls91&session_year=2019&session_number=0>

8)

A group of rural venues (e.g., Bloom Lake Barn, Redeemed Farm, Erickson Farmstead, Hope Glen Farm, Round Barn Farm) have teamed up to start MNREVA in order for us to have a unified voice on legislation and issues that directly impact our businesses and overall industry. Please see attachment titled "MNREVA_Purpose_Mission_Vision."

9)

Legal Representation at the State Level: Please see attachments titled "Screen Shot 2019-11-11"

Hylden Advocacy & Law
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ATTACHMENTS TO EMAIL

2007 Assembly Occupant Load Fact Sheet – [CLICK HERE](#)

2017 Fact Sheet – [CLICK HERE](#)

2018 SFM Letter – [CLICK HERE](#)

2018 SFM Information Sheet – [CLICK HERE](#)

2018 SFM Self Inspection Checklist – [CLICK HERE](#)

2019 SFM Cover Letter and Survey – [CLICK HERE](#)

2019 SFM Event Center Address Mailing List – [CLICK HERE](#)

ADDITIONAL ATTACHMENTS TO EMAIL



[HOME](#) [OUR WORK](#) [THE TEAM](#) [CONTACT US](#) [Q](#)

Hylden Advocacy & Law



Amy Koch

Political Strategist

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Amy served in the Minnesota Senate 2005-2013, and holds the special honor of being the first woman elected as Senate Majority Leader in our state. During her time in the Senate, she served on Transportation, K-12 Education and Higher Education, Energy and Jobs and Economic Development committees, and built a deep knowledge about these areas of public policy. She is a small business owner, an education reform activist and a regular commentator on Minnesota local media. She's frequently quoted by WCCO, the Star Tribune, the Pioneer Press and Politics in Minnesota. She is a regular guest on TPT's Almanac and the podcast Wrong about Everything. She's a former Russian linguist for the US Air Force and the National Security Agency, where she was awarded the Joint Service Commendation Medal for her contributions to the intelligence community. Amy is the mother of Rachel Koch, a student at Clemson University.



Hylden Advocacy & Law

- Government Relations
- Legal Representation
- Grassroots Organizing
- Coalition Building and Management
- Business Development
- Strategic Communication





Final 12.3.19

Minnesota Rural Event Venue Association

PURPOSE | MISSION | VISION | STRATEGIES | VALUES

Why do we exist? (Purpose) To work together for a common good.

Rural Event Venues, our Industry and the Rural Communities we work in are strengthened when we work together for a common good.

What we do. (Mission) We represent and strengthen Rural Event Venue Owners

To represent and strengthen Rural Event Venue Owners through education, advocacy and resource development.

What do we want to achieve over time? (Vision) Strong Industry Image, Success, Strengthened Communities, Preserved Rural Landscape.

Create a strong image for the Rural Event Venue Industry and be a sought after option for weddings and life events
Successful and prospering individual Rural Event Venue businesses.

Protect our Rural Event Venue industry by advocating for safe operating standards and reasonable legislation.
Strengthened the rural communities we live and work in.

Preserve the rural landscape of farms and farmland.

How are we going to achieve our Mission and Vision (Strategies) Unity, Advocacy, Leverage

Assemble resources and help educate Rural Event Venue Owners

Use our resources to organize and gain understanding of legislation that would impact our industry.

Provide a unified voice at the Local and State level for the Rural Event Venue Industry.

Advocate for reasonable Local and State legislation and oversight by retaining an experienced lobbying group.

Leverage resources to lower Members operational costs.

Build a directory of MNReva Certified Venues and publish on MNReva website.

Provide an online MNReva Certification for Rural Event Venues who meet operational and safety standards.

What are our actions? (Values) Be positive, Share, Commit and Build up

Always speak positively about other Rural Event Venues (or don't speak at all).

Share 'best practices' with other Members so that our rural industry prospers as a whole.

Commitment to supporting MNReva through committing time, talent and financial resources (Annual Dues)

Contact individual State Representative and State Senator when needed.

Attend State and Local legislative representation when needed.

Provide referrals to MNReva members when dates are not available.

Build community by attending the annual MNReva conference/celebration.

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