A California bill that would ban forced arbitration heads to Gov. Newsom

A bill that would allow employees to decline to sign arbitration agreements without fear of losing their jobs was passed by the State Senate. Advocates for workers say employees can't enforce their labor rights if they don't have the right to sue an employer, but employers say arbitration agreements are a way for both sides to resolve a labor dispute without a costly court battle.

FULL STORY
California is about to rewrite the rules of the gig economy

During a year when California lawmakers have reviewed a record number of bills, a handful of them have led to loud, visible public battles. One is AB 5, the bill that aims to make gig workers, like Uber and Lyft, employees. Although this bill affects other industries as well, for app-based employers there are hundreds of millions of dollars on the line.

Read more

Santa Cruz County restaurants add surcharge for employee living expenses

At a couple of Santa Cruz County restaurants, customers have noticed a surcharge posted on the menu, which restaurants are using to help employees with their living expenses. Santa Cruz is just the latest in a long list of California cities where surcharges are becoming as common in restaurants as they are in other types of businesses.

Read more

How do you hack a Rujak? Ask the Tjahyadi Brothers!

Rujak is a traditional Indonesian fruit salad with a spicy peanut sauce. Watch how Chef Erwin Tjahyadi adds California burrata to create the perfect east-west bridge at Bone Kettle in Pasadena, CA.

Watch this hack
September is National Food Safety Month; get resources from ServSafe

The theme for the 25th anniversary campaign is “Controlling Risk: The Elements of a Food Safety Management System,” so ServSafe is highlighting how each individual can help a restaurant stay safe and give guests a great experience.

Get resources

San Francisco chef opens up about closing his popular restaurants

Chef Jay Foster says the rent at one of his restaurants quadrupled, from $3,500 to $14,000 per month.

“When your landlord is a multinational company based out of Boston, you feel like the only thing they really care about is making sure their shareholders get their profits,” Foster said. “You feel they don’t really care about what it is you bring to the community.”

Read more

Staying Updated on California Employment Law Changes

CA labor laws are constantly changing and can be difficult to understand. Lower your company’s risk of a lawsuit by getting a better handle on labor compliance, and understand de minimis and break rules. Join Beth Schroeder, a distinguished labor and employment lawyer with over 30 years of experience representing employers and a member of the LA Chapter of the CRA.

Watch now
Inaugural Fresno County Restaurant Week

The CRA Fresno Chapter coordinated this year with the Fresno/Clovis Convention & Visitor's Bureau to launch this new event. Over twenty restaurants are taking part by running special prix fixe menus. Chuck Van Fleet, president of the Fresno Chapter, says they planned the week to follow the California Food Expo, Sept. 8-10. Van Fleet's restaurant, Vino Grille & Spirits, will take part with a three-course menu for $30.

Looking for more info and a list of restaurants? See our press release here.

FULL STORY
Ban on forced arbitration advances but for non-supervisory employers, too. However, a bill signed by Gov. Newsom extends the compliance deadline by one year. Sabrina tells us what the new requirements are, whom they apply to, and what the new deadline is. Contact helpline@calrest.org for valuable resources for members, including access to training.

Watch now

While technology options can streamline the customer experience at a restaurant, it can also lead to an impersonal atmosphere. In order to encourage managers to have more customer interaction, CRA member Dave & Buster's instituted automation in areas that could allow the management team to spend more time talking with and helping customers. The changes have led to a more engaged workforce and happier customers.

Read more

LAST CALL FOR TICKETS!
Join us in Costa Mesa for this magical dinner under the stars. All proceeds benefit Restaurants Care.

THE HEALTH PLAN EDGE
Learn how being smart about health plans can help you keep costs low, employees happy.

EDUCATE YOURSELF
Partner events throughout September can help to give your business a competitive edge.

EVENT CALENDAR

**SEP 11**  
Orange County + LA  
Sexual Harassment Prevention Training, Managers  
More info  
Register

**SEP 17**  
San Diego  
Chapter Board of Directors Dinner  
More info  
Register

CHECK OUT OTHER UPCOMING EVENTS AND REGISTER HERE.