



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 19, 2020

Contact: Bryan Wachter,
Senior Vice President of
Government and Public Affairs
775-771-8969

RAN Urges Consumers to Support Grocery Stores and Pharmacies By Staying Home As Much As Possible

The Retail Association of Nevada issued the following recommendations Thursday to support Nevada retailers during the COVID-19 outbreak. Additionally, RAN urges consumers to support local grocery stores and pharmacies by staying away unless absolutely necessary.

"If you can stay home, if you can be flexible, that is what our grocery and pharmacy retailers need right now," said Bryan Wachter, Senior Vice President of Government and Public Affairs of the Retail Association of Nevada. "Our supply chain is secure, our grocery stores and pharmacies will stay open, and what they need from you now more than ever is to give them room to do what they do best, provide food and medicine for the communities they serve."

If you have enough supplies and can stay away from grocery stores, it will help the consumers who haven't been able to complete their shopping as well as at-risk populations who need to avoid crowds.

Wachter did also say that many non-essential local businesses need help now and will continue to need community support once they reopen. They are doing a huge service to prevent the spread of COVID-19 by closing their doors and deserve our gratitude, appreciation and financial support.

Things you can do to support all local businesses:

- **Be patient** - retailers are understaffed and working hard to keep stores safe, stocked and staffed
- **Be flexible** - you may need to be creative with your recipes, but more products are coming in every day
- **Be gracious** - if you need to visit a retail store, smile and say thank you. You have no idea how much that may brighten the day of someone who is away from their family to keep food and supplies available
- **Give a shout out** - is a retail employee or store going above and beyond? Leave a review, share social shout out, and use hashtag #ThankYouRetailWorkers
- **Don't over purchase** - only purchase enough for two weeks rather than multiple months to reduce shortages and make sure there's enough for everyone
- **Support our at-risk populations** by allowing them to shop during designated hours for lower risks
- **Wash your hands before/during shopping** to keep you healthy but also to keep our retail employees healthy
- **Stay home as much as possible** - there are many home entertainment options that are free or at reduced price during the outbreak
- **Order takeout** - support our local restaurants as well as help support the local employees of chains that are offering delivery and take-out
- **Buy gift cards for local businesses** to help give them liquidity to stay in business through and after the outbreak



- **Shop local online** - many specialty retailers also have websites or Etsy stores and can ship or deliver products to you

The Retail Association of Nevada has launched the state's most comprehensive resource center at www.RANNV.org listing resources in one place that include job opportunities, news alerts and resources if you can't pay your bills due to the outbreak.

###