



MINNESOTA GROCERS ASSOCIATION

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Minnesota Grocers Association Presents 2011 MGA Legislator of the Year Award and NGA Spirit of America Award

St. Paul, Minn. –The Minnesota Grocers Association (MGA) presented two awards at their annual MGA Legislative and Food PAC Dinner last month at the St. Paul Hotel, in St. Paul, MN.

Each year the Minnesota Grocers Association acknowledges a lawmaker who demonstrates a commitment to the retail food industry. The 2011 MGA Legislator of the Year Award went to Senator Tony Lourey (D-Kerrick) for his thoughtful approach in assisting the MGA with issues related to Health and Human Services. Senator Lourey supported an initiative to make Minnesota's health care system more focused on prevention and less costly by supporting initiatives that pay doctors for quality of care rather than numbers of procedures and are focused on helping people lose weight and quit smoking. He also worked with the MGA to ensure in law that our industry has a seat at the table when the state develops policies on food safety and organics.

Mike Miller from Mike's Food Center in St. Charles, MN accepted the National Grocers Association Spirit of America Award. This award is given to an individual MGA member who demonstrates a commitment to the legislative health of the industry by excelling in the area of government affairs. Miller's dedication to the food retail industry shows through in the actions he takes with lawmakers, including store tours, contacting them when necessary, and donations to the Food PAC of MN. He works tirelessly to educate others in his business and community on the role government plays in their lives.

The Minnesota Grocers Association congratulates both winners on their outstanding commitment to the retail food industry.

The MGA is a state trade association representing the food retail industry since 1897. We have over 200 retail members with nearly 1,100 stores statewide, as well as approximately 100 distributors and manufacturers. Our member companies employ over 122,000 union and non-union Minnesotans. We actively advance the common interest of all those engaged in any aspect of the retail food industry as a leader and advocate in government affairs.

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