



Greetings CT Foodie:

Happy New Year! Exciting news – our monthly digital newsletter, "foodbytes," is making a comeback! Following some flavorful brainstorming in our recent strategic planning, a monthly food industry update was a unanimous choice. This newsletter is designed to keep you updated on all things Connecticut. Mark your calendars for February 7th when the Connecticut General Assembly convenes. Stay tuned for a comprehensive recap of key issues until May 8th when the 2024 session concludes. "Foodbytes" conveys state government proposals and keeps you informed about events impacting the state's business community and consumers.

Before diving into 2024, we express gratitude to everyone who attended the Retailer of the Year Dinner in November. A special thank you to John Ross from IGA, and congratulations to industry leaders Bob Rybick of Geissler's Supermarket, Alissa Wellington of Cargill, and Andrew Crowley of Polar Beverages.

Wishing you a fantastic start to the new year!

Your CFA staff 😊

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# FOODBYTES

[Connecticut Residents Cashing In With Higher Bottle Return Rate](#)

[Chris Powell: Ban 'nips,' bottles in CT, boost competition](#)

[We love dollar stores in CT. But here's what can happen when they move in: study](#)

[CT is working to improve food accessibility. Here's what to know.](#)

[Report: 39% of Connecticut Households Struggling to Pay for Necessities](#)

[Workers in New England states looking forward to a bump up in minimum wages in 2024](#)

[A Grocery Chain Just Fired Its Self-Checkouts](#)