



CSI Business Assistance Examples

- Alcohol in Food Recipes – Ohio’s liquor laws required food manufacturers that use alcohol in their recipes – in one case more than 140,000 pounds of wine – to purchase that alcohol at retail prices and in retail containers. CSI helped change the law to allow food manufacturers to purchase wholesale, which directly led to the expansion of at least one company in Lorain County.
- Restaurant Sales Tax – Ohio restaurants being audited by the Department of Taxation had no way of proving they were collecting the appropriate amount of sales tax on their carryout sales (which are not subject to tax). CSI worked with the Department and the industry to develop a process that would provide restaurants opportunities to protect themselves in these audits, including an ability to enter into agreements with the Department to pay a flat percentage of sales, which in many cases allows for much simpler compliance.
- Aggregates Permit - The Ohio EPA worked with the state’s sand and gravel industry on a general permit that would protect the environment and allow businesses to get into operation more quickly. But when CSI was established, the permit had been under negotiation for ten years without resolution. CSI worked with the parties to resolve any outstanding concerns and get the permit issued to benefit the industry.
- International Doctors – Ohio has several renowned academic medical institutions which were able to attract preeminent medical researchers from throughout the world to conduct groundbreaking – and often profitable – work in Ohio. But our licensing laws allowed these internationally-trained researchers to stay in Ohio for only three years. So CSI worked to change the law and create two new licenses which will allow these doctors to come to Ohio and, subject to the licensing requirements in place to protect the public, keep their cutting edge work in our state.

- Boiler Law – Ohio laws regarding commercial boiler operators were so out of line that they required the manufacture of a specific boiler known as the “Ohio Special.” Specifically, the laws required a certified operator for even relatively smaller boilers even though technology has advanced to the point where this requirement is unnecessary and less safe. CSI worked with the legislature to change the law and achieve the right balance to ensure that boiler operations are safe without imposing unnecessary costs. At least one company has recently cited this legislative change as a determining factor in its decision to make a significant investment in Ohio.
- Motor Sports Campground License – The Ohio Department of Health attempted to define motorsports infields, where racers and their teams would park their vehicles and equipment, as campgrounds. This requirement would subject the businesses to licensure and significant changes to comply with the regulations, despite the fact that the infields do not pose the same health and safety concerns as a campground. So CSI worked to change the law and rules to exempt motor sports parks from campground regulations.
- Children's Hunger Alliance – State regulations threatened to put out of business a number of nonprofit organizations that provide nutritious snacks and meals to children, before and after school and during the summer. CSI worked with the appropriate agencies to ensure these organizations would not be required to purchase commercial grade equipment (refrigerators, ovens, etc.) and to use school buses to take the meals to children where they are.
- Adoption Agency Audits – Ohio law required private adoption agencies to have full-blown annual audits which, in at least some cases, cost more than the agencies actually spent on facilitating adoptions. CSI worked to change the law to provide the appropriate level of accountability without putting adoption agencies out of business.
- Declaration Of Material Assistance – Ohio law required any business contracting with the state to complete a form declaring whether it provided material assistance to a terrorist organization. Though well-intentioned, this form had never identified a terrorist organization but did cause administrative headaches for the businesses that had to fill them out, including potential penalties if they made a mistake on the forms. CSI worked with the legislature to have this unnecessary requirement eliminated from statute.