

Chapter 1 : The Food Law and Policy Association

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Guide to Antitrust Laws Spotlight on Trade Associations Most trade association activities are procompetitive or competitively neutral. For example, a trade association may help establish industry standards that protect the public or allow components from different manufacturers to operate together. The association also may represent its members before legislatures or government agencies, providing valuable information to inform government decisions. When these activities are done with adequate safeguards, they need not pose an antitrust risk. But forming a trade association does not shield joint activities from antitrust scrutiny: Dealings among competitors that violate the law would still violate the law even if they were done through a trade association. For instance, it is illegal to use a trade association to control or suggest prices of members. It is illegal to use information-sharing programs, or standardized contracts, operating hours, accounting, safety codes, or transportation methods, as a disguised means of fixing prices. One area for concern is exchanging price or other sensitive business data among competitors, whether within a trade or professional association or other industry group. Any data exchange or statistical reporting that includes current prices, or information that identifies data from individual competitors, can raise antitrust concerns if it encourages more uniform prices than otherwise would exist. In general, information reporting cost or data other than price, and historical data rather than current or future data, is less likely to raise antitrust concerns. Dissemination of aggregated data managed by an independent third party also raises fewer concerns. The FTC and DOJ have developed guidelines, known as the Statements of Antitrust Enforcement Policy in Health Care , for health care providers sharing price and cost data, and the principles in these guidelines are broadly applicable to other industries as well. The DOJ has also issued numerous business review letters relating to proposed information exchanges by various trade associations. It is my job to collect information on competitors from public sources, such as trade journals, securities filings, and press releases. I circulate my report throughout the company. Is this a problem? Your company may collect price or other competitive information from public sources. I am a regional sales manager and I regularly get calls from an industry consultant. In addition, employees should be careful when sharing information they could not otherwise share with competitors through intermediaries such as a financial analyst or even a supplier. The bylaws of our trade association require my company to provide sales data. What should I do? Many trade associations maintain industry statistics and share the aggregated data with members. Collection of historical data by an independent third party, such as a trade association, that is then shared or reported on an aggregated basis is unlikely to raise competitive issues. Other factors can also reduce the antitrust risk. For instance, the Statements of Antitrust Enforcement Policy in Health Care set out a "safety zone" for data exchanges:

Chapter 2 : Cooperative Association of Producers Law and Legal Definition | USLegal, Inc.

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ASA works with our grassroots base of over 50, members to effect change using public education and direct advocacy at the local, state, and federal level. ASAF trains and educates patients, advocates, health care professionals and other stakeholders. ATACH is ushering in the next phase of marketplace expansion by providing a bridge from the cannabis industry to mainstream, name brand, businesses who will be partners in advancing the industry and ending prohibition. The organization is playing a leading role in professionalizing industry representation and facilitating the next generation of the marketplace. CTF is focused on creating a professional, credible, and unified organization for the industry. Along with its member businesses, CTF will also build a dynamic network of associations and nonprofits that share a vision of creating sensible cannabis policy, promoting social responsibility, and leading the future ongoing professionalization of a highly regulated and increasingly organized cannabis industry. Drug Policy Alliance The Drug Policy Alliance envisions a just society in which the use and regulation of drugs are grounded in science, compassion, health and human rights, in which people are no longer punished for what they put into their own bodies but only for crimes committed against others, and in which the fears, prejudices and punitive prohibitions of today are no more. Our mission is to advance those policies and attitudes that best reduce the harms of both drug use and drug prohibition, and to promote the sovereignty of individuals over their minds and bodies. We are at the forefront of the drive for fair and equal treatment of industrial hemp. Since , the HIA has been dedicated to education, industry development, and the accelerated expansion of hemp world market supply and demand. Law Enforcement Against Prohibition LEAP Founded on March 16, , LEAP is a c 3 nonprofit organization made up of current and former members of the law enforcement and criminal justice communities who are speaking out about the failures of our existing drug policies. Those policies have failed, and continue to fail, to effectively address the problems of drug abuse, especially the problems of juvenile drug use, the problems of addiction, and the problems of crime caused by the existence of a criminal black market in drugs. Marijuana Policy Project Marijuana prohibition has failed. Because MPP believes that the greatest harm associated with marijuana is prison, we focus on removing criminal penalties for marijuana use, with a particular emphasis on making marijuana medically available to seriously ill people who have the approval of their doctors. MIG is the oldest and largest trade association for licensed cannabis businesses. Comprised of approximately licensed businesses, MIG has strong leadership at the board and staff level and contracts with a number of consultants to provide leadership in state and local lobbying, government affairs and strategic communications. MIG represents the interests and advocates on behalf of the rapidly evolving needs of the regulated marijuana industry in Colorado. We have a reputation of working with state and local regulators and policymakers to solve issues facing the industry. The thousands of American businesses involved the state-legal cannabis industries represent a tremendous economic force in this country. We are a mission-driven non-profit which helps connect farmers, processors, manufactures, researchers, investors and policy makers to accelerate the growth of this important industry in the United States.

Congress and the monopoly problem: fifty-six years of antitrust development, a report on the history of congressional action in the antitrust field since 1890, prepared at the instance and under the direction of the chairman of the Select Committee on Small Business, House of Representatives, Eighty-fourth Congress, pursuant to H. Res.

Trade associations should have antitrust policies and should consistently consult with an antitrust attorney. Antitrust law reserves its greatest scorn to the horizontal agreements—the deals between and among competitors. And a trade association is, by definition, an entity created to bring these competitors together. Competition Policy International CPI published an Antitrust Chronicle this week about trade associations and industry information sharing and I was fortunate that they invited me to publish an article in this issue. *National Society of Professional Engineers v. There* are a couple of ways that trade associations—and, really, any group of industry competitors—harm competition and risk antitrust liability. For example, a group of competitors may reach agreements on price, output, geographic or product and service markets, contractual terms, etc. These are per se antitrust violations, condemned with little analysis other than whether there was, indeed, an agreement. The other conspiratorial harm that trade associations or groups of industry competitors can inflict is on competitors from another industry or profession. In my view, this harm is underrated and under-considered. I discussed this concern in a law review article a couple years ago. Here is what happens: A group of professionals will spend a lot of time with other professionals of the same type. Dentists, for example, probably have a lot of dentist friends. They see each other at trade association meetings, may have been classmates, know what each other is going through, and have a similar belief system—that dentistry does great things. Nothing wrong with that, in the abstract. And their trade association—this is hypothetical, that is, I am making it up—exists, but nobody really knows about it. It turns out that dentists whiten teeth for their customers. They typically do a good job and charge a lot—dental school was expensive. And dentists have similar cost structures with each other relative to other professionals or businesses and there are great barriers to entry for dentistry, so the teeth-whitening price is both stable and high. Dentists are quick to tell their patients about the opportunity because it is an extra service, i. The patients win because they get white teeth and the dentists win because they make bigger profits. Bigger profits, however, are a magnet for competition. That is how it is supposed to be. It is, in fact, how competition works. When the margins go up, supply enters, and the price goes down or quality goes up. So if you want to make money, find a business with limited competition. Seeing the big profits for dentists, a new industry professional develops—we are calling them the teeth-whitening technicians. I am making this up to simplify the example. What they can do, however, is whiten teeth. They may do it with different technology or methods than the dentists, but, lo and behold, it works. It may not even work as well, but it works. And, do you know what is great? They charge half the price as the dentists. This means that consumers that want white teeth save a lot of money. A success of capitalism? But wait, the story changes. The dentists are suddenly competing with a different industry, a different group of professionals. And, not surprisingly, dentists have trouble charging the same high prices for teeth-whitening. Sure, they still have some customers that are willing to pay the high price. But many of their customers either demand a lower price or go to the new competition. What is the dentist to do? But the dentist is part of a group; a professional group that has a trade association: A powerful trade association of dentists. The association is angry because of the loss of business. The next stage is organization: Oftentimes, the group of industry professionals has an especially sharp arrow in their quiver—the State Licensing Board. They, after all, are most knowledgeable about who can practice in that industry. That may be true, but the danger is probably obvious to you by now. The State Licensing Board for dentists, made up primarily of dentists, could interpret the scope of dentistry to include teeth-whitening or some other area where non-dentists professionals want to compete. By doing so, they could use the power of the state to exclude their competition. These teeth-whitening technicians have no business whitening teeth. That is the province of dentistry. Looks like a group boycott to me—a serious antitrust violation. So the teeth-whitening technicians sell their businesses and have to get another job or start another business. The customers are back to seeing

their dentists for teeth-whitening, at the higher prices. But the dentists benefit; profit margins are back up and business is good. The facts in the above hypothetical are not precisely the facts in the case, but the gist of the story is similar. And this is a story that plays itself out again and again in industry after industry. Look at the battles between taxi companies and Uber and Lyft.

Chapter 4 : Associations & Organizations

Producer organisations (whether or not organised in the form of cooperatives) and their associations are important players which contribute to strengthening the position of farmers and growers in the food supply chain versus other downstream actors by carrying out a wide array of activities on behalf of their members.

Chapter 5 : Health Law & Policy Certificate | School of Law

name is Matt Schruers, and I serve as Vice President for Law and Policy at the Computer & Communications Industry Association, which represents Internet, technology, and communications firms.

Chapter 6 : Spotlight on Trade Associations | Federal Trade Commission

(A) In general - The term "association of producers" means "any association of producers of agricultural products engaged in marketing, bargaining, shipping, or processing as defined in section 15(a) of the Agricultural Marketing Act of , as amended (49 Stat. ; 12 U.S.C. j(a)), or in section 1 of the Act entitled "An Act to

Chapter 7 : Association of Agricultural Producers Law and Legal Definition | USLegal, Inc.

The Food Law and Policy Association (FLAP) is dedicated to providing students with an opportunity to learn about and actively participate in food law and policy issues, such as poverty and food access, food waste, sustainable and ethical farming initiatives, urban agriculture, obesity and diabetes, FDA/USDA regulation, and food-related legislation.

Chapter 8 : Ag Technology & The Law: Advancing American Agriculture - National Agricultural Law Center

The Law and Society Association, founded in , is a group of scholars from many fields and countries, interested in the place of law in social, political, economic and cultural life.

Chapter 9 : Energy law - Wikipedia

Law Enforcement Against Prohibition (LEAP) Founded on March 16, , LEAP is a (c)3 nonprofit organization made up of current and former members of the law enforcement and criminal justice communities who are speaking out about the failures of our existing drug policies.