

## Restaurant group spent \$700K lobbying in 2Q

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National Restaurant Association spent \$700,000 in second quarter to lobby federal government

The National Restaurant Association spent \$700,000 in the second quarter to lobby on economic stimulus payment legislation and other issues, according to a recent disclosure report.

The stimulus payments hit taxpayers' mailboxes and bank accounts beginning in late April. Restaurants were hoping the extra cash would spur more dinners out by strapped consumers.

The trade group, which represents restaurant companies like Ruby Tuesday Inc. and California Pizza Kitchen Inc., also lobbied the federal government on legislation involving tax policy, food safety, labeling restaurant menus with nutritional information, the federal budget, energy efficiency, renewable fuels, immigration, raising the minimum wage and the farm bill, according to the report filed July 21 with the House clerk's office.

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