

JAN 2017 ICCA LEGISLATIVE UPDATE from Margaret Vaughn

NEW LEGISLATURE SWORN IN JAN. 11

In the past few days, Senate President Cullerton and Senate Minority Leader Christine Radogno tried to pull together a compromise proposal to address the Governor's demands for Workers Comp Reform, pension reform and term limits, in order to move forward with a state budget. Their proposal included an income tax increase, new casinos and term limits on legislative leadership positions, to name a few but with only a day and a half to get it passed before the new General Assembly was sworn in, it was not feasible to get enough votes. Though certain areas such as education and the fire training and safety were funded through June 30, 2017 many other areas, including high education and social services were not and lawmakers face a big mess on their hands as the new session begins without a budget.

BILL DEADLINE

The bill introduction deadline is February 10th which means in the next few weeks thousands of bills will be introduced which I will be reviewing and putting on our watch list. The deadline for passage out of Committee in the chamber the bill was introduced is March 31st. April 28th is the deadline to pass it out of the full chamber in which it was introduced and May 26th is the deadline for it to have passed both the House and Senate. That being said amendments can be added to bills at any time during this period and can be scheduled for a committee hearing with only an hour's notice so it can be a pressure cooker.

ROOFING BILL MOVES TO SPRING SESSION TO ADDRESS HOMEBUILDERS' CONCERN

The Legislature returned in November for the fall veto session and we were gearing up for an override of SB 2982, the bill to limit what a building owner's employees could do without a license to roof repair. However at the last minute the Homebuilders had concerns with the bill and came out in opposition. We offered them alternative language to allow owners of residential property to continue to have their employees perform roofing work without a license but would change the law so that work on any commercial or industrial property beyond basic "roof repair" as defined by the ICC would have to be performed by a licensed roofing contractor. The Homebuilders Association of Illinois accepted the compromise language and it will be introduced in the next few weeks.

