

ICCA UPDATE NOV 2017 by Margaret Vaughn

VETO SESSION UPDATE

Today is the last day of the fall veto session. The lame duck count with legislators not running again is at almost 30 and the trendy topic that was consuming the capitol was sexual harassment legislation and training for legislators.

Bills taken up impacting ICCA and/or local governments included the following:

LEGISLATURE OVERRIDES GOVERNOR'S VETO of ROOFING SAFETY BILL

HB 732 – Limits the current exemption in the Roofing Industry Licensing for commercial and industrial building owners employees to only be able to perform roof repair without a license (“roof repair” was taken from the current ICC definition as “reconstruction or renewal of any part of an existing roof for its maintenance” and does NOT include the use of the torching technique). It is now illegal for a building owner’s employees to perform anything beyond “roof repair” such as the torching technique, reroof, roof replacement, etc., and would require the building owner to hire a licensed roofing contractor. Work related fatalities are 3 times more common in the roofing industry than any other construction trade and OSHA fines increased by 80% in 2016 for the first time since 1990 to keep up with the rate of inflation, with fines as high as \$127,000. Though the Governor’s office opposed this because they thought it was “bad for business” , no business organizations opposed this bill because they understand the dangerous nature of roofing and how having a maintenance worker perform such tasks could create major workers comp and liability problems if they are not classifying him as a “roofer “for their workers comp insurance.

***Who is impacted?* Language had been added at the request of the Home Builders Association so this does not apply to residential property so the building owners’ employees of residential property are still exempt from doing anything without a license and the actual owner himself or a commercial or industrial property is not restricted from doing anything without a license. The restriction applies to the employees of an industrial or commercial building owner.**

***Effective?* The legislation went into effect Nov 8th when it cleared the Senate.**

LOCALS DIVIDED on SMALL CELL BILL

Another hot item at the Statehouse was SB 1451 which would regulate small cell wireless installations statewide but not at the local level. The IML is neutral and many of the collar counties and suburban municipal groups were opposed. However after intense negotiations last week and several groups such as the North West Municipal Conference removed their opposition however many individual counties and suburbs continued to oppose the bill. The bill was not part of a veto override but new legislation. The compromise amendment passed the Senate yesterday and is now in the House for concurrence.

GOVERNOR'S OFFICE GIVES GREEN LIGHT to ACCESIBILITY RULES

CDB let us know that the Governor's office did give the ok to move forward with the accessibility rules and though not officially filed they are at JCAR being reformatted and they hope the official JCAR rulemaking process will begin soon.

REP. HURLEY to PURSUE DILAPITAED BUILDING ISSUE

I met with Rep. Fran Hurley (D-Chicago) yesterday and she would like to introduce legislation in January with ICCA's recommended language to address the issue of marking unsafe structures so it is consistent throughout the state. She had introduced HB 1848 last session to address it. She would like to us to schedule a conference or meeting in her district office in the next few weeks. Her office is located in Mt. Greenwood neighborhood of Chicago.