

LEGISLATIVE REVIEW

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The past week was the first full week of legislative activity over the past five months, and likely the last, until the November election. Most action was held as part of a resolution to a controversial bill being reconsidered. The legislation (HB 6) was the centerpiece of the FBI 60-million-dollar conspiracy. HB 6 is one issue which may bring the House and Senate back sooner. Nonetheless, this current session of the general assembly continues until the end of this year. Without a doubt, there will be a lame duck session.

Hovering over the minds and moods of many is the election. All 99 House seats and half the Senate seats are up. With term limits, many are running for the first time. We expect about twenty competitive races in the House and five in the Senate. There is little chance the current party holding the majority in both houses will change, however, we expect the minority party will gain some seats.

In terms of the presidential race, current polls have the President up slightly. It is unclear how that may influence spending and impacts on other races. Over the next few weeks, such spending and impacts may become clearer.

Otherwise, in the legislature this week...

HB 199 Roofing Contractors A few weeks ago, the house rules committee voted to put HB 199 to require commercial roofing contractors to have a license, on the calendar for House session. While OHBA was there to monitor any activity, given several concerns raised particularly with the prohibition on unlicensed subcontractors, it turned out to be a false alarm. When the House again convened for session this past week, HB 199 was not brought forward for action, so will remain stalled in the house, for now.

OHBA will continue to monitor upcoming session activity and plans to continue its discussions, if and when, HB 199 moves to the Senate for hearings.

Resolution for HB 6 will not be a quick one. Plans for final action for multiple proposals to repeal HB 6 remain unclear as legislative committees hold ongoing hearings, while the

democratic side continues to be angry. Both majority and minority leaders have the desire for some form of action on the nuclear subsidy law (HB 6) which is tied to criminal charges in the House. Repeal, replacement or delay are all actions discussed over the past week. Currently, HB 738, HB 746 and SB 346 are being vetted in committees. OHBA continues to monitor this issue and any potential impacts such energy policy may have on the homebuilding industry.

OHBA FALL BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

Reminder, OHBA's Fall Board of Trustees Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, November 10th at the Hilton, Easton. Material information has been sent out, if you need any additional information, please contact OHBA at (800)282-3403 ext. 1. **Room cut-off date is Oct. 10th.**