

LEGISLATIVE REVIEW

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LOTS OF ACTIVITY AS THE LEGISLATURE WRAPS UP

In the final session days for the House and Senate on Wednesday, both chambers went late into the night finalizing numerous pieces of legislation before breaking for summer recess. Tensions were high as there were heated discussions on both sides of various issues, including armed school personnel, knife regulation, and transgender participation in sports. Those were just a few of the slew of bills passed during the marathon session which also included the \$3.51 billion capital funding bill, and language OHBA supported to prohibit local governments across the state from capping or setting residential rental rates.

The 99 House members and half the Senate members will now turn their focus to the recently solidified August 2nd primary election.

RENT CONTROL AMENDMENT SENT TO GOVERNOR IN FINAL HOURS

In the late hours, both the Senate and House passed Substitute HB 430, which included an amendment to prohibit local governments from imposing rent controls. OHBA joined a coalition led by the Ohio Realtors, and included the Ohio Apartment Association, Columbus Partnership, among others that successfully pursued passage of the amendment. The amendment clarifies and expands upon current statute to expressly preempt rent control and rent stabilization measures across the state. A local realtor gave insightful testimony as the bill's final hearing in the Senate earlier in the week. The testimony can be found at the following link.

<file:///C:/Users/Kris/Downloads/HB430-BuffiePatterson-RentTestimony.pdf>

OHBA MEMBER, MIKE SIMKO, TESTIFIED IN OPPOSITION TO THE ELEVATOR LAW LEGISLATION

Residential elevator contractor and OHBA member, Mike Simko of Access Solutions, Inc., testified again in the Senate General Government Budget Committee explaining his opposition stems largely from language in the bill on vertical platform lifts.

"To that end, the current language of the proposed bill would roll us into training and licensing requirements focused on commercial elevators because of one type of equipment currently written into the bill: vertical platform lifts," he said.

Mr. Simko called for the language to be removed from the bill and said any licensing requirement should apply only to commercial elevators.

He went on to warn that the licensing requirements in the bill will harm small businesses across Ohio.

The video of his testimony to the Senate Committee can be viewed at the following link at minute 53:45.

<https://ohiochannel.org/video/ohio-senate-general-government-budget-committee-5-17-2022>

BOARD OF BUILDING STANDARDS ASKS OHBA FOR FEEDBACK ON BUILDING DEPARTMENT RULES

The Chairman and members of the Ohio Board of Building Standards (BBS) are taking a fresh look at the rules and procedures governing Ohio's building officials and building codes. To that end, they have reached out to stakeholders to hear comments/suggestions on addressing building department staffing shortages and the ability of departments to provide code enforcement services. The BBS invites input on proposed changes to the certification and code administration rules, training programs, promotion of shared services and intergovernmental cooperation, recognition of 3rd party and/or expanded special inspection programs and best practices from jurisdictions from around the country.

The BBS reached out to OHBA to help the Board obtain valuable feedback/suggestions from entities such as, private developers, and contractors as they are being impacted by the same issues facing building departments. Please feel free to share any feedback with OHBA to pass along to the BBS.

SUMMER BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

Now is the time to sign-up for OHBA's Summer Board of Trustees Meeting – June 21st. The meeting will take place in Dublin at the brick house blue. We have a nationally known economist Dr. Ted Jones as a guest speaker. Detailed information has been emailed.