

MISSOURI ASSOCIATION OF FIRE CHIEFS

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT LEGISLATIVE REPORT #3 2012 SESSION

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***Items in red are new.**

SIGNIFICANT ITEM

Last week the House and Senate heard bills designed to place *AUTOMATIC* sunsets on administrative rules and regulations. In addition, it expands the role of the petition process, allowing for greater opportunity to challenge all existing administrative rules and regulations. While this sounds like an interesting way to force changes to bad regulation, it also would overwhelm the administrative agencies so much that any new approvals would grind to a halt for years, as well as tossing good regulation. Last year the House passed the bill and the senate liked the concept, but was not sure that was the way to clean out the administrative rules that were out of date. We suspect significant debate on this bill.

BUDGET

All eyes and ears will be on the Governor as he lays out his budget on January 17. Remember his administration believes that there will be at least a \$500 million dollar shortfall for FY13.

FSA PRIORITIES

None of our bills have been filed as of yet. Similar to last year with only 2 or 3 exceptions we will be in a reactive mode, especially with the probable continued retrenchment due to the adverse budget figures.

HOUSE BILLS OF INTETEST

[HB 1029 Flanigan](#) **Authorizes the Oversight Division of the Committee on Legislative Research to conduct program evaluations involving budget transparency and accountability**

History: 01-05-12 H Referred to House Committee on House-Budget

[HB 1040 Hinson](#) Adds department of transportation emergency response vehicles and motorist assistance vehicles to "emergency vehicle" classification of section 304.022

Bill History: 01-05-12 H Read a second time

[HB 1056 Lant](#) Authorizes a surcharge for offsetting emergency services costs in McDonald County. **(This bill is gaining strong opposition from the tourism community.)**

Bill History: 01-05-12 H Read second time

[HB 1089 White](#) Eliminates the prevailing wage in Missouri

Bill History: 01-05-12 H Read second time

[HB 1108 Lauer](#) Requires a telecommunications company to provide caller location information in certain emergency situations.

Bill History: 01-05-12 H Read second time

[HB 1114 Weter](#) Requires Taney County to appoint an emergency services board for administering central dispatching of emergency services

Bill History: 01-05-12 H Read second time

[HB 1121 Kander](#) Changes the laws regarding the filing of a financial interest statement with the Missouri Ethics Commission.

Bill History: 01-05-12 H Read second time

[HB 1148 Gatschenberger](#) Prohibits the use of hand-held electronic wireless communications devices while driving, unless such devices are equipped for hands-free operation and are being used in such manner.

Bill History: 01-05-12 H Read second time

[HB 1176 Schoeller](#) **Exempts certain construction work done for a school district or a county, city, town, or village from the prevailing wage if it is in a disaster area.**

Bill History:

[HB 1198 Fisher](#) **Changes the laws regarding prevailing wages.**

Bill History:

[HB 1210 Gatschenberger](#) **Authorizes a claim clearinghouse to process and verify a request for an offset of an income tax refund and lottery winnings to satisfy an outstanding debt for ambulance services an individual received.**

Bill History: referred to local government

[HB 1224 Brattin](#) **Requires all employers and business entities to enroll and actively participate in a federal work authorization program and imposes stricter penalties for employing unauthorized aliens.**

Bill History:

SENATE BILLS OF INTEREST

[SB 497 - Munzlinger](#) - Increases the penalties for the crimes of trespassing and false impersonation and creates the crime of impersonating a public servant

Bill History: referred to Senate Judiciary

[SB 540 - Chappelle-Nadal](#) - Bars discriminatory employers from receiving public works contracts and requires employers to provide cause to terminated employees

Bill History:

[SB 568 - Parson](#) - Expands Missouri's Move Over Law to include vehicles operated by Transportation Department employees

Bill History:

[SB 572 - Dempsey](#) - Modifies the law relating to workers' compensation. **It also addresses employer liability, occupational disease and the broken second injury fund.**

BILL HISTORY: Will be voted out this week and be debated

[SB592 – Lager-Modifies the law relating to the Missouri Human Rights Act and employment discrimination](#)

This is a pro-business, pro-employer bill that is once again a top priority for Senator Lager, as well as, both House and Senate Republican leadership. This bill is a major component of the highly publicized “Business Climate Coalition” legislative package advanced by Missouri’s leading business groups and advocates.

This bill plugs some holes the court made in the whistleblower law with a decision involving the Enterprise Leasing Company. The governor vetoed this bill last year because the bill included a broader. Proponents argue that this bill levels the litigation “playing field” for employers and curbs relatively recent overreaching by pro-plaintiff, Missouri judges that have extended worker’s rights beyond that established even by federal civil rights laws.

Bill History: