DATE: March 18, 2018

TO: See Distribution

FROM: Charles Huber, Legislation Committee Chair

SUBJECT: Legislation Committee Report to Board of Directors

Reference Legislation Committee Submission in OBOA Annual Report (attached). HB 504 (Rep Dorthy Pelanda) February 20, 2018 to have Ohio Board of Building Standards certify interior designers was assigned to the House's Economic Development, Commerce & Labor Committee. Rep Pelanda February 27, 2018 provided proponent testimony.

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a/s
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1. During 132nd Ohio General Assembly (GA) OBOA opposed House Bill (HB) 128 sponsored by Representative Kristina Roegner.
   a. The bill changes statute to allow Ohio Bureau of Building Code Compliance to contract regulate nonresidential code administration services. It requires government inspections to be accomplished within 24 hours instead of 4 business days. It grants building owners unilateral discretion to have any inspection accomplished by personnel/organizations not from the jurisdiction. It grants building owners unilateral discretion to request Ohio Board of Building Standards (BBS) issue the Certificate of Occupancy instead of the local jurisdiction. It requires Ohio Department of Commerce (DIC) establish an arbitration process where appeals of an inspector's decision may be disposed of within 24 hours.
   b. OBOA President Rick Helsinger memo February 10, 2017 to Rep Roegner provided OBOA’s position. Mr Helsinger and Mr Huber April 26, 2017 participated in an Interested Parties meeting with Rep Roegner, Ohio Municipal League (OML) (bill opponent), Associated Builders and Contractors of Ohio (bill supporter), BBS, and DIC representatives.
   c. OBOA, OML, other professional organizations, and local governments provided Opponent Testimony May 23, 2017 at the House of Representatives' Economic Development, Commerce, & Labor Committee. The bill hasn't been forwarded from that committee to the Speaker of the House.

2. HB 49 included the Governor's initiative to abolish the Ohio Manufactured Homes Commission (OMHC) moving its functions to DIC. The House of Representatives May 2, 2017 modified the bill preserving OMHC. OBOA letter May 22, 2017 to the Senate’s Finance Subcommittee on General Government and Agency Review supported the original bill's abolishment and function transfer. The General Assembly adopted the bill with the OMHC abolishment and function transfer to DIC. BBS now accomplishes a portion of the former OMHC functions.

3. Senate Bill (SB) 43 sponsored by Sen Bacon changes statute to allow townships to become BBS certified building departments even if their county has a certified building department or their county becomes certified. OBOA Legislation Committee initially supported the bill, however OBOA Board of Directors instructed a survey of the membership be conducted. The survey showed the membership opposed the bill. OBOA Vice President Jene Gaver memo June 17, 2017 to the Senate’s Local Government, Public Safety, and Veterans Affairs Committee opposed the bill. That committee June 27, 2017 sent this bill to the full Senate for a vote, however the President of the Senate hasn't yet scheduled it for a vote by the Senate.

4. OBOA monitors but has no position on HB 148 to register home improvement contractors, HB 211 to register home inspectors, HB 339 adding residential specialty contractor licensing by Ohio Construction Industry Licensing Board and mandate building departments link licensing to permits. HB 127 requires BBS adopt rules requiring structural steel welders and inspectors be certified pursuant to American Welding Society standards. These bills remain in the originally assigned committees of the General Assembly (House of Representatives.) HB 504 requiring interior designers be certified by BBS was introduced February 13, 2018.