

INDIANA BUILDERS ASSOCIATION

Legislative and Regulatory Report #23

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HIGHLIGHTS/NEWS

IBA BOARD OF DIRECTORS TO MEET

The IBA Board of Directors and several committees will convene on Tuesday, August 19th at the Hilton Indianapolis North. The Board meeting is a meal function; therefore reservations are necessary and may be made by calling IBA at (800) 377-6334. Cost is \$20 if pre-registered, \$25 at the door.

SHOW YOUR SUPPORT FOR GOVERNOR DANIELS

Mark your calendars for Monday, August 18th from 5-6:30 p.m. for a reception hosted for Governor Mitch Daniels re-election bid at the Hilton North Hotel in Indianapolis. Gold sponsorships are available for \$2500, silver sponsorship \$1000, or \$250 for an individual. Please contact Gretchen White at IBA with any questions (800) 377-6334 or Gretchen@BuildIndiana.org.

ATTEND RECEPTION FOR IBA BOARD MEMBERS

Join State Representative Heath VanNatter (R-Kokomo) and Republican Candidate for Indiana House of Representatives Dale DeVon at breakfast on Tuesday, August 19th from 7:30-9:00 a.m. at the Hilton North Hotel in Indianapolis. Representative VanNatter and DeVon have been very active in IBA, including their roles as Board Members, and IBA leadership encourages members to support their legislative efforts. Suggested contribution is \$95 to one or each campaign. Please contact Gretchen White at IBA with any questions (800) 377-6334 or Gretchen@BuildIndiana.org.

NEARLY FORTY PERCENT OF MORTGAGE BROKERS LOSE LICENSES

Nearly 40 percent of Indiana's mortgage brokers lost their licenses earlier this week because they hadn't complied with a new law aimed at raising the standards of the industry in a state with one of the nation's highest foreclosure rates. Roughly 361 of 950 brokerages had failed to meet a deadline for complying with a 2007 industry-backed law that requires each brokerage to name a principal broker with at least three years experience who has passed a state exam and will oversee his company's business affairs.

INDIANA MAY LAND \$100 MILLION TO JUMPSTART HOUSING

Indiana might be in line for a lot more than the \$20 million minimum each state will be allocated as part of a housing stimulus initiative signed by President Bush on July 31, according to a new IUPUI study. The Center for Urban Policy and the Environment estimates Indiana could receive \$80 million to \$100 million in federal funding because foreclosures and mortgage delinquencies have hit Indiana harder than other states.

LEGISLATIVE

GOVERNOR DANIELS PROPOSES AUTOMATIC REBATES

Governor Daniels recently announced a plan to provide automatic tax refunds, if state revenues went beyond 10 percent, taxpayers would automatically receive an income tax credit. Daniels believes the plan would give legislators “incentives to keep spending under control.”

PRIVATIZATION OF LOTTERY WOULD EDUCATE WORKFORCE

Governor Daniels announced his proposal to lease the Hoosier Lottery to a private operator, to create Hoosier College Promise. The program would help students whose families earn less than \$60,000 per year and students could get up to \$3,000 in each of their first two years at an Indiana school. Daniels previously asked the legislature to consider the privatization of the lottery but was met with opposition and ultimately did not pass.

REGULATORY

STATE REJECTS BLOOMINGTON CODE

State officials recently rejected Bloomington’s property maintenance code, which requires owners of rental properties to comply with new standards even though the structures met the codes that were in force when they were built. The Indiana Fire Prevention and Building Safety Commission ruled that the code is unreasonable and conflicts with state law. Chairman David Hannum says the code is “unenforceable” and must be rewritten.

INDIANA PLUMBING COMMISSION TO ADOPT NEW RULE

The Indiana Plumbing Commission has proposed a rule to revise the fee schedule for examination or reexamination to facilitate the outsourcing of the administration of examinations for journeymen plumbers and plumbing contractors, to establish that the fees for administration and scoring of the examinations be paid directly to the examination services, and to establish the requirements for reinstatement of a delinquent or lapsed license. The rule would also revise the requirements for admission to the journeyman plumber and plumbing contractor examination. A public hearing on the proposed rule will be September 24, 2008 at 10:00 a.m. at the Indiana Professional Licensing Agency in the Indiana Government Center South (402 W. Washington St., Indianapolis) in room W072.

NAHB NEWS

SPRINKLER GRANTS GOING FAST, INCREASED AMOUNTS

Few NAHB travel grants for code officials who will travel to ICC hearings in September remain. Due to increased travel costs NAHB has increased the grant amount from \$850 to \$1,000. For a grant application and further information, please contact Gretchen White at IBA (800) 377-6334.

FIRST-TIME HOME BUYER TAX CREDIT WEBSITE DRAWS MORE THAN 100,000 VISITORS

The newly launched website, www.federalhousingtaxcredit.com has attracted more than 100,000 visitors, indicating that there is a strong interest among consumers to take advantage of a temporary \$7,500 tax credit for the purchase of a first time home. The tax credit is among

several provisions included in the landmark housing legislation enacted into law last month that will help get housing and the economy back on their feet.

CERTIFIED GREEN PROFESSIONALS NOW TOP 1,000

More than 1,000 builders, remodelers and other members of the home building industry have earned the Certified Green Professional educational designation since it was introduced early this year by the National Association of Home Builders. Certified Green Professionals must complete 24 hours of classroom training including 16 hours of green building instruction; must have two years' industry experience, must sign a code of ethics and must commit to fulfilling continuing education requirements to qualify for the designation.