

INDIANA BUILDERS ASSOCIATION

Legislative and Regulatory Report #19

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NEWS

SPECIAL BOARD MEETING CALLED FOR NEXT WEEK

Please plan to attend the special Board of Directors meeting that has been called for Tuesday, June 24th at noon to consider a recommendation by the Executive Committee to sell IBA's investment in the Indiana Housing Center. The meeting will be held at the Gene B. Glick Junior Achievement of Central Indiana Conference Center (7435 N. Keystone Avenue, Indianapolis) and complimentary pizza will be served. Attendance by all State, Life, and Senior Life Directors is imperative as a decision must be rendered and presented to the Builders Association of Greater Indianapolis within 30 days. A quorum is necessary to conduct business and please let IBA know if you can attend by contacting Jen at (800) 377-6334 or Jennifer@BuildIndiana.org.

NEW POLL SHOWS STRONG LEAD FOR DANIELS

A new poll completed by a non-political entity shows Governor Mitch Daniels has a strong lead over Democrat challenger Jill Long Thompson. The poll was reported by Indiana Legislative Insight and shows Daniels is favored 51-35 over Long Thompson.

FLOOD VICTIMS MAY BE ABLE TO ADJUST PROPERTY TAXES

A property owner impacted by the flooding can contact their County assessor to request a reduction in property value as a result of a natural disaster to lower property taxes. All property is eligible -business, residential, real, and personal.

REGULATORY

IBA MEETS WITH GOVERNOR'S STAFF

IBA staff recently met with Governor's staff to discuss the resolution recently adopted by NAHB Resolution for Energy in Existing Homes. The discussion on energy efficient measures was met with positive response and IBA will continue the dialogue with the current Administration to promote energy efficiency in existing homes.

LEGISLATIVE

LAWMAKER TO HELP LEAD IMMIGRATION STUDY

Representative Scott Pelath (D-Michigan City) will help lead a legislative committee's study of illegal immigration in Indiana. Pelath believes that committee should help determine what role the state may play in illegal immigration. A state senator will be the other co-chairman of the study committee but has not been named. IBA will be following this issue very closely throughout the interim.

7th CONGRESSIONAL CANDIDATE CALLS IT QUILTS

Current State Representative and 7th Congressional District Jon Elrod decided to end his bid against Congressman Andre Carson (D-Indianapolis) this week. Elrod had instead decided to run for reelection of his current House seat in House District 97. Carson was elected this past spring in a special election after his Grandmother and late-Congresswoman Julia Carson passed away. It will be up to local precinct committeeman to hold a caucus to choose another Republican candidate to run in the 7th District and to select Elrod as the 97th House District Republican candidate for the November ballot in the next couple weeks.

STATE SENATOR ANNOUNCES INDEPENDENT BID FOR GOVERNOR

Longtime State Senator John Waterman (R-Shelburn) announced his intentions to run for Governor in November as an independent candidate. Waterman has served in the State Senate for 14 years and district includes all or portions of Clay, Daviess, Greene, Knox, Owen, Sullivan, and Vigo Counties. Waterman is currently soliciting the 32,741 signatures needed by June 30th to be placed on the ballot.

JILL LONG THOMPSON SELECTS LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR CANDIDATE

Democrat Gubernatorial candidate Jill Long Thompson announces current State Representative Dennie Oxley (D-English) will be her running mate for Lieutenant Governor in November. Oxley has served in the House of Representatives for ten years and district includes all or portions of Clark, Crawford, Dubois, Harrison, Jackson, Perry, Scott, and Washington Counties. Local committeemen will choose a replacement for Oxley and select a Democrat candidate for the November ballot in the coming weeks but speculation is that Oxley's father may have an interest in the seat.

REPRESENTATIVE MARLIN STUTZMAN SENATE CANDIDATE

Representative Marlin Stutzman (R-Howe) was chosen as the Republican candidate for Senate District 13 after longtime Senator Bob Meeks (R-LaGrange) announced he would not seek another term. Stutzman has served in the House of Representatives for five years and his district includes all or portions of Dekalb, LaGrange, and Noble Counties.

NAHB

URGE CONGRESS TO PASS HOUSING STIMULUS LEGISLATION

Housing stimulus legislation has passed in the House and is moving toward final Senate action. The two chambers must reconcile their proposed policy solutions and move quickly to pass legislation before the Fourth of July recess. Each chamber has offered proposals that would aid ailing homeowners and provide incentives for potential homebuyer's, yet a final bill has yet to materialize. Contact your Congressmen today and tell them how you've been impacted by the downturn in the housing economy and ask them to quickly pass housing stimulus legislation before the Fourth of July holiday. Get connected free-of-charge by calling the NAHB Legislative Hotline at 1-866-924-NAHB (6242).

GRANT FOR CODE OFFICIALS TO VOTE ON SPRINKLER MANDATE

NAHB has announced plans to offer a grant of \$850 for code officials who will travel to ICC hearings in September and vote against sprinkler mandates. Grants are offered as a way to cover travel expenses and are awarded on a first come, first served basis. For a grant application and

further information, please contact Gretchen White at IBA (800) 377-6334 or Gretchen@BuildIndiana.org.

NAHB TESTIFIES BEFORE CONGRESS ON GREEN ACT LEGISLATION

NAHB Executive Vice President Jerry Howard recently suggested several principles for lawmakers to consider while debating the Green Resources for Energy Efficient Neighborhood Act of 2008, also known as the GREEN Act. The legislation would adopt green criteria that would apply to federally assisted housing programs. Howard cautioned adopting overly stringent goals for energy efficiency compliance could boost the cost of building affordable housing to a level that is not sustainable over the long term. Howard suggested providing financial or other incentives to developers and builders of affordable housing to help meet and exceed green building goals; work with stakeholders to develop attainable goals for the development of supportive financing mechanisms such as energy-efficient and location-efficient mortgages as well as appraisal standards that appropriately recognize the value of green building; and to develop educational materials to communicate best practices and promote sustainable federally assisted housing.