

February 19, 2010

**TO: MAFMIC BOARD OF DIRECTORS, GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS  
COMMITTEE AND MANAGERS**

**FR: MARCUS MARSH, GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS MANAGER**

**RE: WEEKLY LEGISLATIVE REPORT**

This week was busy making the rounds with Legislators and key staff now that the MAFMIC Convention is over.

The media was running as there were numerous news conferences by Representatives and Senators and various groups on a whole host of issues. Plus the Capitol was filled with groups and organizations talking to their Legislators or protesting.

Every Legislative Session has their unique characteristics and this one is no different. There is a lot of anger, frustration, pressure and too much politics. With the House and Senate both up for election, plus the Constitutional Officers, seven Legislators running for Governor, a \$1.4 billion dollar budget shortfall, a Bonding Bill, and a Governor testing the waters for President it makes for a very difficult atmosphere to work in.

There will be bills dealing with a host of issues in the arena of insurance, with Health Insurance issues being a hot topic, but auto insurance will have its share of bills and property and casualty bills will keep us busy.

The bill to prohibit some of the practices of "Storm Chasers" S.F. 1886 Chief Author (Kathy Saltzman DFL – Woodbury) and H.F. 2060 Chief Author (Phil Sterner DFL – Rosemount) should be heard in the near future in the Senate Commerce Committee.

A bill was introduced to ban the use of credit information in insurance underwriting; the bill is S.F. 2432 Chief Author (David Tomassoni DFL – Chisholm) and H.F. 2625 Chief Author (Tom Rukavina DFL – Virginia).

Bills are being introduced fast and furious so between now and when committee deadlines are set it will be extremely busy. All of us at MAFMIC will again need to be involved to protect our companies and policyholders.

The 2010 Congressional Contact Program (CCP) is earlier this year May 19 & 20. Please plan to attend it is more important than ever to meet with our Congressional Delegation.