

March 12, 2010

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

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

**RE: WEEKLY LEGISLATIVE REPORT**

The week was hectic as Legislators rushed to have their bill or bills heard before the first committee deadline. Looking at the committee schedules one wonders if most of the hundreds of bills listed need to pass for the good of society?

Governor Tim Pawlenty signed the bill (H.F. 2552, S.F. 2251) to change the Primary Election from the second Tuesday in September to the second Tuesday in August. This will thankfully fix the problem for our military personnel overseas making sure their votes are counted especially in the General Election in November.

H.F. 3052 the "nonrecourse civil litigation funding" bill Chief Author Representative Jim Abeler (R-Anoka) that I wrote about last week passed out of the House Civil Justice Committee on Wednesday and was sent to the House Floor. The companion bill S.F. 2704 was taken by Senator Linda Scheid (D-Brooklyn Park) so next week being the second committee deadline, decisions will have to be made if she goes forward with legislation.

With the first committee deadline passing any changes to "Bad Faith" should be dead for the session. Of course the Trial Lawyers can try amending bills but with no hearings on this issue and all the other problems facing the Legislature this issue should be behind us for another year.

The same should be true for proposals to ban the use of credit information in insurance underwriting. Senator Mary Olson (D-Bemidji) has been pushing very hard to have her bill S.F. 2768 heard. Senator Linda Scheid (D-Brooklyn Park) Senate Commerce Committee Chair would not hear the bill. Representative Joe Atkins (D-Inver Grove Heights) House Commerce Committee Chair said if this bill was not heard in the Senate he was not going to hear it in the House.

Looking at this week's House and Senate Commerce Committee Agenda's bills dealing with numerous issues such as construction codes, trucking, mortgage foreclosure, ticket sales for events, petroleum storage, battery recycling, elevators, and liquor just to name a few. Plus, lots of bills proposing changes to health insurance coverage. The good news

is it appears quiet on the property and casualty insurance front. With all of us working together we can keep it that way.

Several weeks ago I e-mailed registration forms for the 2010 Congressional Contact Program (CCP) for May, 19 and 20. Registration forms were also included in the last issue of the LINK. Please consider going to Washington this year because there are issues before the Congress that affect our companies. If you need a registration form please call the MAFMIC Office.