

March 26, 2010

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

FR: MARCUS MARSH, GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS MANAGER

RE: WEEKLY LEGISLATIVE REPORT

The week was busy as Legislators were passing numerous bills in the House and Senate during floor action. At the speed some of these bills were being passed, monitoring them and floor amendments was kind of like juggling.

The compromise GAMC (General Assistance Medical Care) Bill passed both chambers and Governor Pawlenty said he will sign the bill. A bill to tighten absentee ballots was passed and signed by the Governor; the bill will hopefully reduce the fraud and problems of more votes cast than people registered, as was the case in some precincts in 2008.

S.F. 1886 the Storm Chaser or Roof Rebate Bill Chief Author Kathy Saltzman (D-Woodbury) was voted on Wednesday in the Senate with no dissenting votes. Trial Lawyer and Senator Ron Latz (D-St. Louis Park) was not in the Senate at the time of the vote, later he complained to Senator Saltzman and wanted the bill returned to what is called the General Orders Calendar. Senator Saltzman agreed only because she was concerned Senator Latz would continue to raise complaints against the bill.

On Thursday, Senator Saltzman moved the bill back to General Orders and later in the day the bill was back before the Senate. Senator Latz offered an amendment to gut the bill, and in his lengthy presentation, tried to make a case for why Senators should vote for his amendment. We lobbied hard on Thursday with the IFM prior to the floor session. I took the rural Democrats and a few Republicans and they supported us overwhelmingly against Senator Latz's amendment, which led to the passing of the bill.

The Legislature will meet on Monday, March 29th and then recess for Easter until Tuesday, April 6th.

The **deadline** for room reservations for the 2010 Congressional Contact Program is coming quickly. I need to provide that information to NAMIC no later than **April 15**. Rooms are going to be hard to come by in Washington so please get your Registration Forms to me as soon as possible. We need your voice to protect our companies and policyholders against the numerous issues and bills in Congress. The 2010 CCP is May 19th and 20th. **Please plan to attend.**

