

LEGISLATIVE REVIEW
MARCH 26, 2015 – REPORT #7

OPPONENT TESTIMONY HEARD ON HB 77 CONTRACTOR REGISTRATION

The House Commerce and Labor Committee held its third hearing this week and heard from several opponents of HB 77, including NARI and the HBA of Greater Cincinnati. Following testimony and questions from the committee, there was agreement a problem exists with unscrupulous contractors, but that a very simple registration would not be enough to have much impact on dealing with this problem. As a result, it appears the goal of the Committee is to work on some form of more meaningful enforcement. OHBA continues to be in close contact with the Chairman on any changes to the bill.

RCAC CONSIDERS PETITION TO ADOPT NEW ELECTRIC CODE

At its meeting this week, the RCAC considered a petition submitted by NFPA and NEC with support from several other interested groups urging the RCAC to adopt the most recent version of the National Electric Code (2014 NEC). After some heated questioning and discussion on the submittal, the Chairman appointed a subcommittee to further review the 2014 NEC. There were several concerns raised with some of the new code provisions, including additional GFCI protected outlets, as well as, the cost data submitted with the petition. OHBA reminded the committee it is under no mandate to adopt a new code, and has the authority to change/amend as it see fit for Ohio. The subcommittee has been scheduled to meet prior to the next RCAC meeting on April 22nd.

Please contact OHBA with any comments or concerns you may have on the NEC.

SUBSTITUTE BILL EXPECTED IN BUDGET PROCESS

As the legislature prepares to break, the House will likely make a substitute bill available when they return. After several hearings and volumes of testimony, it appears the substitute HB 64 will include drastic changes to what was initially proposed. There has been much discussion on what the substitute will include, but any details remain unknown. OHBA continues to follow numerous provisions of HB 64.

Please contact OHBA with any questions.