

Week Two of the 2019 Legislative Session (January 14-18, 2019)

- **Deadline to submit proposed bills ends:**

Legislators had until 5:00 PM today to submit their proposed bills to the House and Senate Clerk's office. It usually takes a couple of days for the House and Senate Clerks to catch up with all the last minute submissions. We should see the last of these bills published in the House and Senate Journals by the end of next week. The next important deadlines will be the Committee Bill and Raised Bill deadline which will be the second and third weeks of February, respectively.

- **OLR Report on The Cost of Workers Comp in CT Compared to Surrounding States Requested on HBRA's Behalf:**

Sen. Witkos attended the HBRAC's most recent Developers Forum at which he heard concerns about workers' comp cost in Connecticut leading to a competitive disadvantage for in state contractors bidding against out of state contractors. As a result, Sen. Witkos asked the Office of Legislative Research to conduct a study on the current state of workers comp in Connecticut compared to surrounding states. Legislators often use these reports to gain a better understanding of an issue in order to make an informed decision when pursuing policy and legislative goals. We will be sure to circulate the report once it's published.

- **HBRAC leaders meet with Executive Director Joe DeLong and CCM policy director Brian O'Connor.**

HBRAC asked for a meeting with CCM's Executive Director to discuss tax relief for builder inventory. At the beginning of the meeting CCM unequivocally stated they could not support the measure. However, by the end of the discussion Joe DeLong committed to putting together a group of municipal officials together to discuss the proposal and see if with some modifications CCM could support it. We also covered other concerns about affordability and the need to discuss ways in which our associations can partner to provide the legislature with common sense solutions to promote affordability before they are mandated upon us. We agreed to circle back and meet regularly moving forward.

- **Rep. Cara Pavalock of Bristol proposes a bill on behalf of the HBRAC.**

Rep. Pavalock informed that she submitted a proposed bill a couple of days ago to eliminate municipal property tax on unfinished and/or model homes. I will share the bill when it's published.