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PUBLIC AFFAIRS MEMO

Friday, 29 May 2009

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JMI 2009 Legislative Update

Yesterday was an important day as Governor Crist signed the State budget into law. The signature came with two appropriation vetoes which rejected a proposed 2% pay cut to state employees making over \$45,000 a year and also denied a \$6 million reallocation from a concealed weapons permit processing trust fund.

The 2009-2020 State budget totaled \$66.5 billion, a \$300 million increase from last year's budget even though state revenues were still down significantly. This was achieved due to the acceptance of some Federal "stimulus" money, a \$1.00 per pack increase to the cigarette tax, adjustment of gaming restrictions and multiple fee increases. There were virtually no proposed spending increases this year.

Several notable pieces of legislation passed this year, some already signed into law, and others still waiting on approval from the Governor. The following is a list of bills that JMI was, and still is, actively tracking. The list also provides links to the actual bills for more detailed information.

Please feel free to contact JMI with any questions or comments regarding any of this year's legislation.

Thanks,

Thomas

Thomas M. Perrin
Director of Public Affairs

JMI Priority Issues

[HB 0453](#) - Relating to Tax Credits for Contributions to Nonprofit Scholarship-funding Organizations – Weatherford

Tax Credits for Contributions to Nonprofit Scholarship-funding Organizations: Provides

that credit authorized under Florida Tax Credit Scholarship Program does not apply to credit for Florida alternative minimum tax; expands & renames Corporate Income Tax Credit Scholarship Program to include insurance premium tax credits; revises credits for contributions to nonprofit scholarship-funding organizations; provides that taxpayer eligible to receive credit against insurance premium tax is not eligible to receive credit against corporate income tax; imposes additional requirement upon DOE; specifies school district tax credit scholarship notification requirements & limitations; provides for credits against insurance premium tax for contributions to specified eligible nonprofit scholarship-funding organizations; authorizes certain insurers that made past contributions to Florida Tax Credit Scholarship Program to claim credits against future corporate income tax liability; requires insurer to apply to DOR for such credits & file amended corporate income tax & insurance premium tax returns.

Effective Date: 7/1/09

Last Action: 5/19/09 - Signed by Officers and presented to Governor (Governor must act by 06/03/09)

HB 0013 - Relating to Middle School Civics Education Assessment - McBurney

Middle School Civics Education Assessment: Provides requirements for civics education course that student must successfully complete for middle grades promotion beginning with students entering grade 6 in 2011-2012 school; requires administration of end-of-course assessment in civics education as field test at middle school level during 2011-2012 school year; provides requirements for course grade & course credit for subsequent school years; requires inclusion of civics education end-of-course assessment data in determining school grades beginning with 2012-2013 school year.

Effective Date: 7/1/09

Last Action: 5/8/09 - HOUSE Died on Second Reading Calendar

HB 1219 - Relating to Regulation of State Lands and Oil and Gas Resources - Van Zant

Regulation of State Lands and Oil and Gas Resources: Authorizes Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund to accept bids for oil & gas leases on specified submerged lands; provides location restrictions on refining & retail sale of oil & gas extracted pursuant to such leases; revises requirements for proof of financial responsibility by lessee prior to commencement of drilling on submerged lands; provides for distribution of royalties, cash considerations, annual rentals, or payments in lieu of royalties collected for oil & gas leases; provides for distribution of other state income from offshore oil & natural gas activities; provides exemptions from land leasing, permitting, & construction restrictions relating to leases on submerged lands; revises applicability provisions relating to surety for geophysical exploration, drilling, & production.

Effective Date: 7/1/09

Last Action: 5/11/09 - SENATE Died in Messages

HB 1355 - Relating to Management of State-Owned Lands - Mayfield

Management of State-Owned Lands: Directs OPPAGA to conduct study on centralization of land management activities of state & submit study to Legislature; directs DEP, in consultation with FWCC & DACS, to issue request for proposals & invitation to negotiate for public-private land management demonstration pilot project for specified conservation lands; specifies project requirements; limits annual cost of pilot project; requires certified auditor to prepare & submit report to Governor, Legislature, Acquisition & Restoration Council, & LBC; provides report requirements.

Effective Date: 7/1/09

Last Action: 5/8/09 - HOUSE Died Pending Review of CS under Rule 7.20

HB 1171 - Relating to Residential Property Insurance - Proctor

Residential Property Insurance: Authorizes certain insurers to use rate in excess of otherwise applicable filed rate; prohibits consideration of certain policies when making specified calculation; preserves authority of OIR to disapprove rates as inadequate or disapprove rate filing for using unlawful rating factor; authorizes OIR to direct insurer to make specified type of rate filing under certain circumstances; requires that certain policies contain specified notice, etc.

Effective Date: upon becoming a law

Last Action: 5/7/09 - HOUSE Enrolled (will be presented to Governor soon)

HB 1495 - Relating to Insurance - Nelson

Property and Casualty Insurance: Revises dates of insurer's contract year for purposes of calculating insurer's retention; requires SBA to publish statement of estimated claims-paying capacity of Hurricane Catastrophe Fund; provides dates on which claims-paying capacity of fund will increase; provides that insurer may repair damaged property in compliance with its policy; authorizes insurer to include in its rates actual cost of certain reinsurance, etc.

Effective Date: upon becoming a law

Last Action: 5/27/09 – Signed into law by Governor

HB 1263 - Relating to State and Local Government Revenue Limitations; Voter Approval of New Taxes and Fees - Flores

State and Local Government Revenue Limitations; Voter Approval of New Taxes and Fees: Proposes amendment to s. 1, Art. VII & creation of s. 19, Art. VII of State Constitution to replace existing state revenue limit based on Florida personal income growth with new state & local government revenue limits based on inflation & population changes; limit property tax revenues based on changes in local growth & enrollment changes in school districts; require revenues collected in excess of revenue limits to be deposited into budget stabilization funds, used to reduce future taxes, or refunded to taxpayers; authorize voters to permit collection of revenues in excess of

revenue limit; authorize Legislature & governing body of local government to approve taxes by supermajority vote for emergencies; prohibit state or local government, without first obtaining approval by supermajority vote of electors, from imposing new taxes, fees, assessments, or charges for services or incurring multi-year debts or financial obligations without adequate cash reserves; & provide Effective Date.

Last Action: 5/8/09 - HOUSE Died in Finance & Tax Council

SB 1906 - Relating to Gov't. Revenues/Voter Approval/New Taxes & Fees - Haridopolos

Gov't. Revenues/Voter Approval/New Taxes & Fees [WPSC]; Proposes an amendment to Section 1 and the creation of a new section in Article VII of the State Constitution to limit state and local government revenues and require voter approval of new taxes and fees.

Last Action: 5/11/09 - SENATE Died in Committee on Governmental Oversight and

SB 1840 - Relating to Protecting Health/Surcharge on Tobacco Products - Deutch

Protecting Health/Surcharge on Tobacco Products [WPSC]; Levies a surcharge on cigarettes equivalent to \$1 per standard pack. Requires that revenue from the surcharge be deposited into the Health Care Trust Fund within the AHCA. Provides that certain members of an Indian tribe recognized in this state are exempt from paying a cigarette tax and surcharge under certain conditions. Provides that an approved agreement between an Indian tribe and the state takes precedence over specified provision, etc.

Effective Date: 7/1/09

Last Action: 5/27/09 - Signed into law by Governor

SB 1796 - Relating to Governmental Financial Information - Alexander

Governmental Financial Information [WPSC]; Directs the Legislative Auditing Committee to provide oversight and management of a state website providing information on governmental appropriations and expenditures. Creates the "Transparency Florida Act." Requires the Executive Office of the Governor to establish a website providing information relating to each appropriation in the General Appropriations Act, etc.

Effective Date: Upon becoming law.

Last Action: 5/27/09 - Signed into law by Governor

JMI Secondary Issues

Education

HB 0157 - Relating to Public K-12 Education - Kriseman

Public K-12 Education: Provides requirements for civics education course that student must successfully complete for middle grades promotion beginning with students entering grade 6 in 2011-2012 school year; requires DOE to encourage school districts to initiate, adopt, expand, & institutionalize service-learning programs, activities, & policies in K-12; revises provisions relating to schools receiving school grade, etc.

Effective Date: 7/1/09

Last Action: 5/11/09 - SENATE Died in Messages

SB 0916 - Relating to Corporate Tax Credit Scholarship Program - Wilson

Corporate Tax Credit Scholarship Program [WPSC]; Provides an additional purpose that enables students in specified grades in public schools to receive certain assistance in attaining grade-level performance. Requires scholarship funding organizations to allocate at least 25 percent of their scholarships to public school students. Permits scholarships of a certain amount for public school students. Requires public schools to account for the use of scholarship funds, etc.

Effective Date: 7/1/09

Last Action: 5/11/09 - SENATE Died in Committee on Education Pre-K - 12

HB 0919 - Relating to Revision of the Class Size Requirements for Public Schools - Weatherford

Revision of the Class Size Requirements for Public Schools: Proposes amendment to s. 1, Art. IX & creation of s. 31, Art. XII of State Constitution relating to class size requirements for public schools. State Constitution currently limits maximum number of students assigned to each teacher in public school classrooms in the following grade groupings: for prekindergarten through grade 3, 18 students; for grades 4 through 8, 22 students; & for grades 9 through 12, 25 students. Under amendment, current limits on maximum number of students assigned to each teacher in public school classrooms would become limits on average number of students assigned per class to each teacher, by specified grade level, in each public school. Amendment also adopts new limits on maximum number of students assigned to each teacher in individual classroom as follows: for prekindergarten through grade 3, 21 students; for grades 4 through 8, 27 students; & for grades 9 through 12, 30 students. Amendment specifies that class size limits do not apply to virtual classes, requires Legislature to provide sufficient funds to maintain average number of students required by amendment, & schedules revisions to take effect upon approval by electors of state & to operate retroactively to beginning of 2010-2011 school year.

Effective Date: Not Specified

Last Action: 5/11/09 - SENATE Died in Committee on Education Pre-K - 12

HB 0991 - Relating to School Improvement and Accountability - Grady

School Improvement and Accountability: Designates act "Florida's Equal Opportunity in Education Act"; revises provisions relating to powers & duties of district school boards to implement state system of school improvement & education accountability; requires that State Board of Education comply with federal Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA); requires that DOE categorize public schools annually based on school grade & level & rate of change in student performance, etc.

Effective Date: 7/1/09

Last Action: 5/26/09 - Signed by Officers and presented to Governor (Governor must act by 06/10/09)

HB 0999 - Relating to Educational Choice - Horner

Educational Choice: Establishes Class Size Grant Program to provide option to attend public school other than the one to which student is assigned, or to provide class size grant to private school of choice, for students assigned to classrooms that exceed constitutional class size limits; provides eligibility requirements for receipt of grant; provides school district, DOE, & Commissioner of Education obligations & authority; provides eligibility requirements & obligations of private school participating in program; provides for grant funding, reporting, & payment; requires DOE to report on school district implementation of & compliance with program.

Effective Date: 7/1/09

Last Action: 5/8/09 - HOUSE Died in PreK-12 Policy Committee

SB 1248 - Relating to Public K-12 Education - Wise

Public K-12 Education [SPSC]; Deletes a provision that requires a public school principal to collect 50 to 75 percent of a textbook's purchase price from a student who has lost, destroyed, or damaged a textbook that has been in use for more than 1 year. Requires the DOE to encourage school districts to initiate, adopt, expand, and institutionalize service learning programs, activities, and policies in kindergarten through grade 12, etc.

Effective Date: 7/1/09

Last Action: 5/4/09 - SENATE Enrolled (will be presented to Governor soon)

HB 1293 - Relating to High School Graduation - Fresen

High School Graduation: Requires that students be advised of availability of certain courses; provides credit requirements for high school graduation with standard diploma beginning with students entering grade 9 in 2010-2011 school year & students entering grade 9 in 2012-2013 school year; deletes provisions relating to general requirements for high school graduation to conform to changes made by act; provides for accommodations for students with disabilities for purposes of graduation; authorizes

award of standard high school diploma to certain honorably discharged veterans; requires passing scores on grade 10 FCAT to meet grade-level proficiency.

Effective Date: 7/1/09

Last Action: 5/11/09 - SENATE Died in Messages

HB 1411 - Relating to Education Personnel - Stargel

Education Personnel: Cites this act "Quality Teachers for All Students Act"; provides additional access to records by certain education employees or agents in cases of child abuse or neglect; requires DOE to report to State Board of Education on effectiveness of graduates of state-approved teacher preparation programs; requires Commissioner of Education to report to Legislature specific recommendations for legislation to improve teacher quality, etc.

Effective Date: upon becoming a law

Last Action: 5/11/09 - SENATE Died in Messages

SB 1978 - Relating to Classroom Expenditures - Diaz de la Portilla

Classroom Expenditures [SPSC]; Requires that school districts spend a minimum percentage of the district general fund on expenditures in the classroom. Requires that the DOE develop a uniform calculation and a common format for district reporting. Requires that school districts publish information regarding classroom expenditures. Requires that the DOE analyze the expenditures of school districts that fail to meet required classroom expenditure levels, etc.

Effective Date: Upon becoming law.

Last Action: 5/11/09 - SENATE Died on Calendar

SB 2124 - Relating to Educational Choice/Class Size Grant Program - Wise

Educational Choice/Class Size Grant Program [WPSC]; Establishes the Class Size Grant Program to provide the option to attend a public school other than the one to which a student is assigned, or to provide a class size grant to a private school of choice, for students assigned to classrooms that exceed constitutional class size limits. Provides school district, DOE, and Commissioner of Education obligations and authority, etc.

Effective Date: 7/1/09

Last Action: 5/11/09 - SENATE Died in Committee on Education Pre-K - 12

SB 2654 - Relating to High School Graduation - Altman

High School Graduation [SPSC]; Provides credit requirements for high school graduation with a standard diploma beginning with students entering grade 9 in the 2010-2011 school year and students entering grade 9 in the 2012-2013 school year. Amends provision requiring that students be advised of the availability of certain

courses for purposes of an accelerated high school graduation option, etc.

Effective Date: 7/1/09

Last Action: 5/11/09 - SENATE Died in Committee on Education Pre-K - 12

Energy and Environment

HB 0021 - Relating to Energy Security - McKeel

Energy Security: Urges Congress to support expiration & removal of moratoria prohibiting exploration & production of oil & natural gas in federal Outer Continental Shelf waters surrounding Florida & to include Florida in revenue sharing resulting from such exploration & production.

Effective Date: Not Specified

Last Action: 5/8/09 - HOUSE Died in Rules & Calendar Council

SB 0504 - Relating to Energy Security - Oelrich

Energy Security [EPSC]; Urges the Congress of the United States to support the expiration and removal of moratoria prohibiting exploration and production of domestic supplies of oil and natural gas in federal waters surrounding Florida and to include Florida in revenue sharing resulting from the production of oil and natural gas in federal waters surrounding Florida.

Last Action: 5/11/09 - SENATE Died in Committee on Environmental Preservation and Conservation

HB 1309 - Relating to Motor Vehicle Emission Standards - Rader

Motor Vehicle Emission Standards: Ratifies DEP rule adopting California motor vehicle emission standards; requires DEP & DHSMV to develop proposal to implement rule & report to Legislature.

Effective Date: 7/1/09

Last Action: 5/8/09 - HOUSE Died in Governmental Affairs Policy Committee

SB 2264 - Relating to Motor Fuel Marketing Practices - Storms

Motor Fuel Marketing Practices [CPSC]; Repeals specified provisions relating to definitions to conform. Repeals a specified provision relating to unlawful predatory practices and exceptions. Deletes provisions prohibiting certain predatory practices. Amends a specified provision relating to unlawful discriminatory practices and exceptions. Conforms provisions to the repeal of a specified provision. Repeals a specified provision relating to exempt sales.

Effective Date: 7/1/09

Last Action: 5/11/09 - SENATE Died in Committee on Transportation

SB 2294 - Relating to Environmental Control - Wise

Environmental Control [EPSC]; Directs the DEP to develop a plan for the implementation of an expedited permitting process for nuclear power plants. Directs the DEP to develop a plan for the implementation of an offshore drilling program. Provides requirements for the plans. Requires the plans to be submitted to the Legislature by a specified date.

Effective Date: 7/1/09

Last Action: 5/11/09 - SENATE Died in Committee on Environmental Preservation and Conservation

Health Care

HB 1393 - Relating to Medicaid Managed Care Pilot Program - Schwartz

Medicaid Managed Care Pilot Program: Deletes provisions relating to Medicaid managed care pilot program.

Effective Date: 7/1/09

Last Action: 5/8/09 - HOUSE Died in Health Care Regulation Policy Committee

SB 1658 - Relating to Health Care - Peaden

Health Care [WPSC]; Authorizes the ACHA to adopt rules related to the Public Medical Assistance Trust Fund. Revises behavioral health services and dental services coverage under the Kidcare program. Updates the data to be used in calculating disproportionate share. Authorizes the ACHA to make disproportionate share payments to certain hospitals. Directs the AHCA to establish pilot projects in Miami-Dade County relating to home health services, etc.

Effective Date: 7/1/09

Last Action: 5/27/09 - Signed into law by Governor

Property and Casualty Insurance

SB 1046 - Relating to Public Records/Meetings/Hurricane Protection Prog. - Fasano

Relating to Public Records/Meetings/Hurricane Protection Prog. [CPSC]; Provides an exemption from public-records requirements for certain records of the Florida Hurricane Protection Program of the Florida Catastrophe Fund. Provides an exemption from public-meetings requirements for portions of certain meetings of the State Board of Administration. Requires that exempt portions of meetings be recorded, transcribed, and maintained for a specified period, etc.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Contingent.

Last Action: 5/11/09 - SENATE Died in Committee on Banking and Insurance

HB 1157 - Relating to Property Insurance - Bogdanoff

Property Insurance: Expands uses of moneys in Florida Hurricane Catastrophe Fund to include Florida Hurricane Protection Program costs; revises provisions with respect to issuance & use of revenue bonds & emergency assessments; revises TICL coverage levels & periods of effectiveness; creates Florida Hurricane Protection Program; requires SBA to adopt program plan of operation; requires insurer contractual participation; provides sanctions for noncompliance; provides limitations on liability; provides requirements for adoption of rates & forms; provides criteria & requirements for calculation of reinsurance needs & optional reinsurance; provides for transitional rates & form filings by insurers; specifies applicability of insurance premium tax to policies issued by program; requires program to make payments to DOR; prohibits Citizens Property Insurance Corporation from issuing or renewing specified types of policies after specified date; provides exception to restrictions on acceptance of specified offers of coverage; requires CPIC to provide access to specified policy information by insurance agents; requires CPIC to transfer specified portion of surplus to Florida Hurricane Catastrophe Fund; provides for use of CPIC information technology by program; transfers to program ownership of such information technology; specifies areas in which certain property insurance policies must include coverage for catastrophic ground cover collapse & separate sinkhole coverage must be made available.

Effective Date: 7/1/09

Last Action: 5/8/09 - HOUSE Died in Insurance, Business & Financial Affairs Policy Committee

SB 2384 - Relating to Property Insurance - Fasano

Property Insurance [CPSC]; Specifies uses of moneys in the Florida Hurricane Catastrophe Fund. Provides for the expiration of certain requirements related to the initiation of reimbursement contracts. Revises provisions with respect to issuance and use of revenue bonds. Creates the Florida Hurricane Protection Program within the Florida Hurricane Catastrophe Fund. Specifies which counties are considered "high sinkhole hazard counties," etc.

Effective Date: Upon becoming law.

Last Action: 5/11/09 - SENATE Died in Committee on Banking and Insurance

Property Rights

SB 360 - Relating to Growth Management - Bennett

General Growth Management [EPSC]; Cites act as the "Community Renewal Act." Revises requirements for adopting amendments to the capital improvements element of a local comprehensive plan. Revises concurrency requirements. Revises requirements

for adoption of impact fees. Authorizes local governments to use the alternative state review process to designate urban service areas. Provides for the assessment of property receiving the low-income housing tax credit, etc.

Effective Date: Upon becoming law.

Last Action: **5/18/09 - Signed by Officers and presented to Governor (Governor must act by 06/02/09)**

HB 0521 - Relating Ad Valorem Assessments - Lopez-Cantera

Ad Valorem Assessments : Revises basis for providing presumption of correctness to assessment of property value; provides that taxpayer is entitled to evaluation of appraisal methodology; provides that act preempts prior case law; provides for challenges to classification or exemption status of property; provides legislative intent relating to taxpayer burden of proof; rejects certain case law precedent, etc.

Effective Date: upon becoming a law and shall first apply to assessments in 2009

Last Action: **5/26/09 - Signed by Officers and presented to Governor (Governor must act by 06/10/09)**

SB 1102 - Relating to Real Property Assessments/Burden of Proof - Storms

Real Property Assessments/Burden of Proof [WPSC]; Revises the burden of proof in challenges to the property appraiser's assessment of just value. Deletes the presumption of correctness and places the burden of proof on the appraiser.

Effective Date: 7/1/09.

Last Action: 5/11/09 - SENATE Died in Committee on Community Affairs

SB 1556 - Relating to Property Rights - Baker

Property Rights [EPSC]; Shortens a notice period for certain actions. Provides for the state land planning agency to receive notice of claims. Revises procedures for determining a governmental entity's final decision identifying the allowable uses for a property. Provides that enactment of a law or adoption of a regulation does not constitute applying the law or regulation. Provides for a waiver of sovereign immunity for liability, etc.

Effective Date: 7/1/09.

Last Action: 5/11/09 - SENATE Died in Committee on Judiciary

Secret Ballot

HB 1013 - Relating to Guaranteeing the Right to Vote by Secret Ballot - Hasner

Guaranteeing the Right to Vote by Secret Ballot: Proposes creation of s. 28, Art. I of State Constitution to declare that right of individuals to vote by secret ballot is fundamental &, where local, state, or federal law requires elections by the people for public office, requires public votes by the people on initiatives or referenda, or requires designations or authorizations of employee representation, right of individuals to vote by secret ballot is guaranteed.

Effective Date: Not Specified

Last Action: 5/11/09 - SENATE Died in Messages

Tax and Budget

HB 0081 - Relating to Repeal of Public Campaign Financing Requirement - Hays

Repeal of Public Campaign Financing Requirement: Proposes repeal of s. 7, Art. VI of State Constitution to eliminate requirement for public financing of campaigns of candidates for elective statewide office who agree to campaign spending limits.

Effective Date: Not Specified

Last Action: 5/19/09 - Signed by Officers and filed with Secretary of State

HB 0329 - Relating to Streamlined Sales and Use Tax Agreement - Rehwinkel Vasilinda

Streamlined Sales and Use Tax Agreement: Revises various provisions of law relating to Streamlined Sales and Use Tax Agreement.

Effective Date: 7/1/09

Last Action: 5/8/09 - HOUSE Died in Economic Development Policy Committee

HB 0385 - Relating to Limitation on Aggregate Ad Valorem Taxes on Real Property - Rivera

Limitation on Aggregate Ad Valorem Taxes on Real Property: Proposes amendment of s. 9, Art. VIII of State Constitution to limit total ad valorem tax on parcel of real property to 1.35 percent of highest taxable value of property; applies limitation to all ad valorem taxes on real property except those levied for payment of local bonds issued to finance or refinance capital projects authorized by law & approved by vote of electors or to refund outstanding bonds or levied for periods not longer than 2 years when authorized by vote of electors; requires Legislature to provide for distribution of revenues collected on parcels that exceed 1.35-percent limitation.

Effective Date: Not Specified

Last Action: 5/11/09 - SENATE Died in Messages

HB 0479 - Relating to Retirement - Schenck

Retirement: Redefines terms "employer," "officer or employee," "past service," "normal retirement date," "termination," "regularly established position," & "temporary position"; requires promotional materials that refer to FRS to include disclaimer unless approval is obtained from DMS or SBA; revises & clarifies provisions relating to employment after retirement; revises provisions relating to renewed membership in retirement system, etc.

Effective Date: 7/1/09

Last Action: 5/7/09 - HOUSE Enrolled (will be presented to Governor soon)

SB 2282 - Relating to First-responder Services - Bennett

First-responder Services [CPSC]; Prohibits counties and municipalities from imposing a fee or seeking reimbursement for costs relating to certain first-responder services. Provides exceptions. Defines the term "first responder."

Effective Date: 7/1/09

Last Action: 5/1/09 - HOUSE Enrolled (will be presented to Governor soon)

Telecommunications

SB 2626 - Relating to Telecommunications Companies - Haridopolos

Telecommunications Companies [EPSC]; Creates the "Consumer Choice and Protection Act." Authorizes the DMS to engage in certain activities related to assessing the need for broadband Internet service in the state, planning for such service, and encouraging the statewide deployment of such service. Provides that the price for any service that was treated as basic service before a specified date may not be increased by more than the amount allowed for basic service, etc.

Effective Date: 7/1/09

Last Action: 5/4/09 - SENATE Enrolled (will be presented to Governor soon)

Worker's Compensation

HB 0903 - Relating to Attorney's Fees in Workers' Compensation Cases – Rep. Flores

Attorney's Fees in Workers' Compensation Cases: Clarifies requirements for payment of fees & costs under retainer agreement; specifies amount of attorney's fees which claimant is entitled to recover from carrier or employer.

Effective Date: 7/1/09

Last action: 5/15/09 - Signed by Officers and presented to Governor (Governor must act by 5/30/09)

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