

NHSCA Monthly Update
Thursday, March 14, 2019 at 2:30 pm CST.

2-10 Home Buyers Warranty: Mike Bartosch

AHS: Mark Celichowski

American Home Guard: Chad Forbush

American Water Resources: Pat Wodack, Meghan Boyle

Fidelity: Lorna Mello

First American Home Warranty: Jeff Powell

HMS/Cross Country: John Walsh

National Home Guaranteed: Richard Adams

Old Republic Home Protection: Chris Wasson, Adrienne Giacalone

NHSCA Staff: Art Chartrand, Joy Moore

Guests: David Roberts, Nortelus Roberts Group, Florida Lobbyist
David Parker, Longbow Partners, Texas Lobbyist

Roll call was taken, and a quorum was present.

FL – Dave Roberts

Our joint NHSCA and SCIC bill, HB925, had a full Committee Hearing yesterday. We now have a “strike all” version of the bill, now called a committee substitute. David Roberts will send to staff a full briefing memo to forward to all members by tomorrow. Our sponsor Rep. Jennifer Webb (D-St. Petersburg) has been very helpful.

DC Legislation – The new law, basically our NAIC Model, was adopted as of February 22, 2019 and becomes effective August 21, 2019. The Department currently indicates it will not have the application forms that apply to the new law available until August. Chartrand wrote the Department and asked them to delay the effective date until January 2020 if it cannot have the application procedures available well before August.

NV – Chartrand was in Nevada March 6 and met with our lobbyists, the DOI and Senator David Parks. Parks has indicated a separate but parallel effort to impose new statutory amendments on home warranty due to slow Communication and slow claim handling. Chartrand feels like he will work with us. This is unrelated to our current regulatory changes. It does offer an opportunity to work our amendments in by statute rather than by regulation. The latter are not due out till mid this summer as the legislative council that hands regulation changes is backed up at this time. Also, Sen Parks does not indicate our industry is a high priority for him and has other bills he wants to see through. He has until Monday March 18, to submit for 2019 or not. We will advise.

TX - The “5 points of Light” legislation is pending in Texas. We still have no objections. Scott Paris with HomeServe USA requesting to add language regarding power surge, accidental damage from handling and household items. Chartrand indicated we generally have no objections to such and will not oppose but will not let threaten our initiative. He

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also indicated the utilities would be pushing for this amendment. Bartosch raised the concern whether the addition of “household items” appears to be novel language and whether it has any unintended consequences or other implications. Chartrand said we would look in to it and inquire as we await a hearing in the Senate.

SCIC- Iowa legislative changes have been combined in to a singular bill against our preference. The rest of the bill changes have been ironed out with SCIC. We have covered the other bills on prior call and there is nothing new to report.

Auto renewal law issues- It has not been the position of the NHSCA to spend a lot resource and effort in fighting auto renewal bills as they apply to many industries. We only get involved if they specifically relate to home service contract industry.

National Meeting Update

An added meeting will now be held on Friday, May 31 from 10 AM till noon to explore the concept and details of a Home Warranty Conference involving industry and regulators. Everyone is invited. Let staff know if you will be attending.

We are inviting Nevada Commissioner Barbara Richardson and/or DOI staff attorney David Hall to the meeting as well as our Nevada lobby firm.

Please let Joy know if your spouse, significant other or any other family member or guest will be attending our reception, dinner or Thursday boat and dinner outing.

Next call is April 4 at 2:30 pm.