

Legislative Update:

David Firmin, Esq. September 10, 2021

You may recall the Legislative Make Up

- House 65 Members
 - 41 Democrats
 - 24 Republicans
- Senate 35 Members
 - 19 Democrats
 - 16 Republicans



The Year After Covid Still mattered

- Session was all about Covid-19 Issues
- Started Late, ended a week earlier than mandated (They could have gone to 6/12)



THE BILL

- HB 21-1229
 - Originally Introduced was long, like really long (27 pages).
 - Amended 19 unique sections
 - Would have amended 13 different parts of CCIOA
 - Added burdens to Associations including increased compliance costs.
 - Was based upon HB 20-1333



BIG BILL CONTINUED

HB 21-1229 Continued

- Addressed penalties for failing to provide documents
- Addressed conduct of meetings etc.
- You get the picture. This bill was widely disliked by, well all....



HB 21-1229

- What passed was limited to four sections:
 - Nonvegetative turf grass in back yards
 - Solar panels the 10% rule
 - Disclosure of "unique" fees to buy a home in a community
 - Penalties for failing to produce records after written demand
 - 30 day grace period, penalties on the 11th day (Yes, it works)
 - Key takeaways:
 - This bill was very personal to Rep. Titone
 - Was very difficult to deal with drafting
 - She will revisit this topic next year.



LATE ARRIVAL

- HB 21-1310 The Freedom of Speech Bill
 - Can't Limit Content of Flags & Signs
 - Can adopt content neutral rules
 - Number
 - Aesthetics
 - No Commercial.
 - Pros: Takes discretion out of the Association's hands
 - Political Signs are no longer an issue
 - Cons:
 - Hang on its going to get interesting



RETAINAGE

- HB21-1167 Retainage
 - Since contactors must be protected against themselves, any retainage in a contract greater than 5% is unenforceable.
 - Be careful in releasing payments.



Discrimination

HB21 – 1108 Adds Gender Identity
 and Gender Expression as protected
 classes under the States version of
 the FHA.



QUESTIONS??

