



05.20.2022

2022 Louisiana Legislative Session Update

We are nearing the end of the 2022 Regular Session! We killed all the most harmful bills, amended others to ensure a neutral impact on the merit shop, and succeeded in getting most ABC-supported bills to the final stages of the legislative process. Now we are awaiting final floor votes and continuing to monitor bills for last-minute amendments adverse to our values and interests.

We had a lot of bills initially scheduled for debate on the Senate floor this week, but the Senate got bogged down trying to clear their backlog while also passing the budget, so most of what we expected to come through this week got postponed. Although the week was generally slow, we did help to push a handful of construction bills by Senator Womack through House committee and the last of Representative Frieman's Workers' Compensation reform bills received a favorable vote on the House floor.

See below for an explanation of this week's main bills, and for what's coming up next week.

House Transportation, Highways and Public Works

SB 271, by Senator Womack, provides that public entities may not consider information not included in the Louisiana Uniform Bid Form when reviewing bids for public works. SB 271 reported favorably from the House Committee on Transportation, Highways and Public Works. **ABC-LA supports SB 271.**

SB 423, by Senator Foil, provides that a product supplier for public works may seek approval for products other than that specified in the contract within seven days of bid opening. If the prime design professional fails to respond to the request within three days of submission, the submitted product shall be considered approved. SB 423 reported favorably out of the House Committee on Transportation, Highways and Public Works. **ABC-LA is monitoring SB 423.**

SB 429, by Senator Womack, provides that a public entity shall publish and furnish to the contractor on a public works project with an itemized list of the remaining matters to be finished, errors to be remedied, or any inconsequential matters, within 10 days of substantial completion of the public works. The public entity may amend the punch list within 14 days after initial publication. SB 429 reported favorably out of the House Committee on Transportation, Highways and Public Works. **ABC-LA supports SB 429.**

House Floor

HB 56, by Representative Frieman, repeals the Workers' Compensation Advisory Council. It passed off the House floor 56-27. **ABC-LA supports HB 56.**

HB 412, by Representative Goudeau, provides for the verification of attendance at employment interviews and allows for revocation of unemployment benefits for failure to attend interviews without good cause. HB 412 passed off the House floor by a vote of 72-17. **ABC-LA supports HB 412.**

Senate Committee on Transportation, Highways and Public Works

HB 710, by Representative Stefanski, provides relative to the construction management at-risk (CMAR) project delivery method. HB 710 reported favorably from the Senate Committee on Transportation,

Highways and Public Works. **ABC-LA is monitoring HB710.**

Senate Committee on Labor & Industrial Relations

HB 239, by Representative Frieman, provides that upon a joint or uncontested motion, the Workers' Comp judge shall grant a stay. HB 239 reported favorably from the Senate Committee on Labor & Industrial Relations. **ABC-LA supports HB 239.**

HB 467, by Representative Frieman, eliminates Workers' Compensation payments for dependents of the deceased if the dependents are not the decedent's spouse, child, parents, or siblings. Representative Frieman voluntarily deferred HB 467 in order to engage in more comprehensive Workers' Compensation reform. **ABC-LA supports HB 467.**

HB 622, by Representative Beaulieu, provides the Louisiana Workforce Commission with additional responsibilities to reduce unemployment insurance fraud. HB 622 reported favorably from the Senate Committee on Labor & Industrial Relations. **ABC-LA supports HB 622.**

HB 1067, by Representative Riser, extends the application deadline for the Fresh Start Proper Worker Classification Initiative to 12/31/23. HB 1067 reported favorably from the Senate Committee on Labor & Industrial Relations. **ABC-LA supports HB 1067.**

Next Week on the Senate Floor

HB 93, by Representative Frieman, provides that if parties to a Workers' Comp case agree to a continuance of a mediation, hearing, or trial by filing a joint or uncontested motion to continue then the judge shall grant the continuance. **ABC-LA supports HB 93.**

HB 97, by Representative Magee, is scheduled for final passage on the Senate floor. The bill extends the termination date applicable to levee restoration or rehabilitation work not publicly bid. **ABC-LA is monitoring HB 97.**

HB 230, by Representative Bishop, extends deadline to apply for rebates in the Louisiana Quality Jobs Program. **ABC-LA supports HB 230.**

HB 803, by Representative Gadberry, provides that the Dept. of Natural Resources, in collaboration with the La. State Uniform Construction Code Council, will maintain responsibility for training and technical assistance in implementing the energy code provisions of the La. State Uniform Construction Code. It also creates the Energy Code Commission, which consists of various stakeholders, including a designee of the Associated Builders & Contractors of Louisiana. **ABC-LA supports HB 803.**

SB 310, by Senator Luneau, entitles employees with compensable injuries that occur on or after August 1, 2022, for which permanent total disability continues, to a cost-of-living adjustment in their weekly compensation rate effective August 1, 2022. **ABC-LA opposes SB 310.**

SB 474, by Senator Womack, relates to change orders on public works. It provides that a public entity must pay a contractor within 45 days after approving the application of payment. Proposed law requires that change orders be executed within 45 days of discovering the work covered by the change order, unless a redesign is necessary. It further provides that the contractor shall submit a proposal for the estimated cost of the change order once the redesign is complete, or within 10 days of the discovery if no redesign is necessary. Finally, it provides that the public entity and contractor have 15 days to negotiate the change order, unless they otherwise agree to more time. **ABC-LA supports SB 474.**

LEGISLATIVE WEEK 2022

**INCLUSION,
DIVERSITY AND
EQUITY SUMMIT**

**FREE ENTERPRISE
ALLIANCE
RECEPTION**
Associated Builders and Contractors

**LEGISLATIVE
DAY 2022**

June 13-15, 2022 Washington, D.C.

Join us for ABC Legislative Week in June in Washington D.C. ABC Pelican and Bayou members will engage with top political leaders and experts and meet with their U.S. Representatives and Senators to advocate for the critical policy priorities of ABC and the merit shop construction industry. The week will feature a legislative day with a Louisiana Delegation Luncheon for ABC of Louisiana members at the Capitol Hill Club on Wednesday, June 15th.

For more information or to reserve your spot at the Louisiana Delegation Luncheon please email Macie at mmorgan@abcpelican.com.



Thank you all for supporting the merit shop. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at any time.

Carson DeLarue

Director of Governmental Affairs, ABC of Louisiana

A: 19251 Highland Road, Baton Rouge, LA 70809

C. 337.739.8297

E. carson@abclouisiana.org