

# Milliron Associates

GOVERNMENT RELATIONS • LEGISLATIVE LAW • LOBBYING

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## Legislative Update

January 17, 2011

The 2011 Session kick-started an acclimation process for our new Governor Tom Corbett, cabinet members, and the leadership of the General Assembly. As a result, legislative matters were slow to commence and move through the process. 2012, however, promises to be an exciting year which we optimistically believe will result in victories for many of our clients. Below are just a few of our key 2012 client issues.

### **BILL**

H.B. 838 was introduced on the behalf of Milliron Associates' client, the Pennsylvania Academy of Ophthalmology in order to define ophthalmic surgery.

### **SITUATION**

Current Pennsylvania law prohibits non-physicians from performing eye surgery, yet does not define surgery. To remove ambiguity and maintain patient safety, H.B. 838 was introduced which will ensure that only trained medical doctors perform surgery of the eye.

### **STATUS**

H.B. 838 was referred to the Senate Consumer Protection and Professional Licensure committee after being voted and passing the House, 133 "yes" votes to 68 "no" votes. Milliron Associates is fighting to have the Senate move the bill in early to late spring.

### **BILL**

H.B. 212 and S.B. 936 redefine the administration of Anesthesia in a hospital to allow Registered Nurse Anesthetists to administer anesthesia without supervision of the operating physician or anesthesiologist. These bills and any similar legislation are highly opposed by our client, the Pennsylvania Society of Anesthesiologists.

### **SITUATION**

Physicians supervise the administration of anesthesia care so that if an emergency takes place, immediate medical treatment can be provided. If a physician is not present while anesthesia is being administered, patient safety is in jeopardy.

### **STATUS**

Both H.B. 212 and S.B. 936 have been referred to the Professional Licensure committee and have had no action. Milliron Associates anticipates that they will remain "boxed" in committee for the remainder for the 2011-12 Session.

**BILL**

H.B. 1141 was introduced on the behalf of Milliron Associates client, the Pennsylvania Manufactured Housing Association in order to provide the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development the authority to develop guidelines for the reinstallation of manufactured homes.

**SITUATION**

Several years ago, legislation was signed into law that gave the Department the authority to develop regulations for the installation of new manufactured housing. Since then, local codes officials have expressed concern about moving manufactured homes and reinstalling them to specific codes. The code officials approached the Department about writing guidelines, but the Department does not have the authority.

**STATUS**

S.B. 1141 was referred to the Senate Urban Affairs and Housing committee in June of 2011, voted out of committee 11:0, and placed on the Senate calendar in November. In December the bill was referred to the Appropriations committee but did not make any further movement due to the impending holiday season. Milliron Associates anticipates the progression of S.B. 1141 will commence with the return of Session.

**BILL**

H.B. 1891 was introduced on the behalf of Milliron Associates client, the Bowling Proprietors Association of Pennsylvania in order to protect the liability of bowling centers.

**SITUATION**

Bowlers who go outside in their bowling shoes often pick up moisture or other foreign substances on the bottoms of their shoes resulting in slipping, tripping, falling, or sliding when they return to bowl. As a result, bowling centers can and have faced lawsuits.

**STATUS**

H.B. 1891 was referred to the House Judiciary committee in November of 2011. By mid-November the bill was referred out of committee and placed on the House calendar, however, the bill was tabled shortly after that. Milliron Associates is fighting for quick action by the House and expects that the bill will move in early to late spring.

**Over the next couple of months we will be publishing a series of newsletters highlighting each of our clients and their priorities. We are looking forward to sharing stories of accomplishments and good fights. 2012 is going to be a great year.**

**Contact Us**

Should you have any questions in regard to what you have read in this article or in regard to any other matter, please feel free to contact our office by phone or e-mail. We have an open door policy.