

CBA Capitol e-newsletter

January 23, 2008

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The 2008 regular legislative session, a short session, commences on February 6, 2008 and adjourns on May 7, 2008.

What's happening at the Capitol. On Tuesday, January 22, 2008, the House and Senate met in special session to debate and vote on an extensive criminal justice legislative proposal. Much of the legislation was agreed upon between legislative leaders of both parties and the Governor, including creating a new "home invasion" crime, although some issues, particularly a provision calling for a tougher "three strikes" provision supported by the Governor and Republican legislators, were excluded from the final bill that was eventually approved by the General Assembly early in the morning of January 23. Senate Bill 1700, An Act Concerning Criminal Justice Reform, was unanimously approved by the Senate on a vote of 36-0 and overwhelmingly approved by the House on a vote of 126-12 (with 13 absent or not voting). The Governor is expected to sign the bill into law. A link to the bill follows: <http://www.cga.ct.gov/2007/TOB/s/pdf/2007SB-01700-R00-SB.pdf>

Looking ahead at the Capitol. CBA sections and committees continue to prepare their legislative proposals for the upcoming session. Sections and committees must obtain authorization for new or expired legislative proposals and positions from a CBA governing body before those proposals or positions may be included on the CBA legislative agenda. The Board of Governors next meets on February 13; the deadline for submitting requests for inclusion on the Board's agenda is February 1. The next meeting of the House of Delegates is scheduled for March 11; the deadline for submitting requests for the House's agenda is February 29.

CBA legislative staff update. In August 2007, the CBA hired Marquita Peterson as Legislative Assistant. Marquita, who will be working her first legislative session in 2008, is excited to be working with CBA legislative staff, leadership and members and is looking forward to assisting members who wish to obtain information about CBA legislative activities, state legislation or the General Assembly.

Legislative agenda. The CBA's legislative agenda consists of several association, section and committee positions. To obtain more information about the legislative agenda or additional legislative information, check out Capitol Update on the CBA homepage.