

*Update 3-11-11*

The Legislature kicked off the 2011 Session on Tuesday, March 8. On Monday, the Senate Committee on Community Affairs met, passed and significantly amended SB 396.

Provisions of interest for Home Inspectors include:

1. Removal of repair clause from 468.8319
2. Addition to grandfathering clause, allowing Div 1 Contractor, ICC holders, and Code officials. See amendment to SB 396

Rep. Daniel Davis has filed the companion bill to SB 396 HB 849. The legislation will mirror what travels in the Senate. It was referred to the following committees this week: Business & Consumer Affairs Subcommittee, Rulemaking & Regulation Subcommittee, Government Operations Appropriations Subcommittee and finally Economic Affairs Committee. The measure is expected to during the next meeting of the first committee of reference.

On Tuesday, the House Business & Consumer Affairs Subcommittee met and voted out HB 4171, which repeals Mold Licensure. However, the Subcommittee was very critical of Rep. Jamie Grant in its line of questioning. Following the other bills, the Subcommittee then reviewed and discussed a recommended list of licenses by DBPR that should be considered for repeal, included in the that recommendation was Home Inspection Licensing. The Chair of the Committee, Rep. Steve Bovo, encouraged the folks attending the meeting to educate the members of the Subcommittee on why a license should remain or be repealed.

This was the basis of the email survey of the Florida Home Inspectors around the state to inquire with the membership if licensing should continue to exist. The companion measure, SB 1224 by Sen. Jim Norman was referred this week to Senate Regulated Industries and then the Budget Committee.