



MECHANICAL CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION OF OHIO
QUARTERLY REPORT
JANUARY 2020

Advocating for Specialty Contractors Since 1967

The Members of the MCA of Ohio met in Columbus on January 14th to hear the Consultants Report from Calfee Halter & Griswold and to conduct their regular business meeting. Listed below are the key topics discussed:

House Bill 380 – PRIVATE PROMPT PAY

The MCA of Ohio is actively working with Representative Jon Cross (R-83) and Representative Bride Rose Sweeney (D-14) on a bill that would match the public prompt pay requirements to private contracts as well. This bill would require owners to pay prime contractors within 30 days to speed up cash flow for all contractors on the project. This bill has received both sponsor testimony and proponent testimony in the Ohio House. MCAO President, Tim Farber of The Farber Corporation in Columbus and Valerie Pope, MCAO Executive Director, offered proponent testimony in December on the bill. No opposition has reported to the sponsors or committee thus far. We are anticipating more hearings on this bill in February.

House Bill 218 - PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS

The MCA of Ohio is working with Representative Tom Patton (R-7) to ensure that his bill to authorize certain public entities to enter into public-private initiatives with a private party through a public-private agreement regarding public facilities contains language that ensures that the existing competitive bidding statutes for public work and prevailing wage are properly incorporated into any P3 initiatives that result from this bill.

House Bill 247 – UTILITY COMPETITION WITH MECHANICAL CONTRACTORS

The MCA of Ohio has issued a letter to Representative Dick Stein (R-57) to request interested party status on a major piece of utility legislation that we are concerned would permit electric distribution utilities (EDU) to offer products, such as advanced metering technology, electric vehicle charging stations, smart grid technology, Commercial and residential Plumbing/HVAC equipment, and other items. EDUs would be allowed to perform the installation of these products under their brand name for customers. Additionally, the bill would allow for EDUs to apply for cost recovery for these services as well as add the installation costs to the customers utility bills which could hide or subsidize the actual cost of the installation. This new line of business for EDUs would bring them into direct competition with members of MCAO, who already provide installation of these technologies for customers. And with cost recovery, the EDUs could be entering the market with a distinct, government-created competitive advantage. We are watching this bill closely and are positioned to act in the best interests of our contractors and the consumer.

Senate Bill 246 – RECIPROCITY IN OCCUPATIONAL LICENSING

Sponsors, Kristina Roegner (R-27) and Rob McColley (R-1) have introduced a bill to require an occupational licensing authority to issue a license or government certification to an applicant who holds

a license, government certification, or private certification or has satisfactory work experience in another state under certain circumstances. This would include the Ohio Construction Industry Licensing Board. This bill is backed by the Goldwater Institute and the Buckeye Institute. MCAO's concern is that this one-way legislation is detrimental to our members because it would not require other states to offer the same kind of opportunity for existing Ohio businesses to gain licensure in surrounding states. We have asked to be considered an interested party on this bill as well so that we can participate in the debate on behalf of specialty contractors in Ohio.

RETAINAGE PAYMENTS TO SUBCONTRACTORS IN THE OAKS-CI SYSTEM

MCA of Ohio has been actively working with the Ohio Facilities Construction Commission on the revision of their OAKS-CI payment system and their front end documents with regard to their impact on subcontractors receiving retainage payments when their contract is 50% complete rather than waiting on the prime contractor's contract to reach 50% completion before any retainage can be released. The OFCC is aware that their system is out of compliance with current law with regard to subcontractor payments. MCA of Ohio representatives sat down with the OFCC staff and programmers again in January to try to find some solution to this issue. We are working with the Associated General Contractors and other design organizations as well on this critical payment flaw. An update is expected at the spring meeting.

AN ELECTION YEAR IS AN OPPORTUNITY FOR MCAO MEMBERS

Election year is upon us and while the Ohio General Assembly is home campaigning in their districts, there is an opportunity for member visits and tours. We are working to set up as many meetings and tours as we can to establish and reinforce our relationships with local legislators. If you are interested in setting up a coffee, jobsite tour, or training center tour in your area, please contact MCAO Executive Director, Valerie Pope, or your local association executive and we will help you make the appropriate arrangements. It's an easy, quick way to help the MCAO keep up our legacy of "Advocating for Specialty Contractors Since 1967"



Mechanical Contractors Association of Ohio

SEPTEMBER 15
featured event
MCAO STATEHOUSE CELEBRATION
1 Capitol Square, Columbus, OH 45215

CONVENTION & TRADESHOW 2020

SEPTEMBER 15-16
convention & tradeshow
HYATT REGENCY COLUMBUS
350 N HIGH ST. COLUMBUS, OH 43215