Introduction

For our call tomorrow (Monday, January 14) at 12:00 noon (CT), I want to direct your attention to a few bills that have been filed to date. Forty-two House bills and forty-eight Senate bills have been filed. We can expect the floodgates to open during week two of the 2019 Session.

This year, I am going to classify bills into three tiers, with Tier 1 bills being the highest priority bills to NAIFA-SD. We can always reclassify bills from one tier to another, but I will initially place them in the category I think is most appropriate.

TIER 1 BILL

SB 37 An Act to revise certain provisions regarding association health plans.
Sponsor: Committee on Commerce and Energy at the request of the Department of Labor and Regulation
Summary: This is the Division’s association health plan bill. Randy Moses will continue to try to negotiate further amendments to the bill, on behalf of the Big I. It is my understanding that the health insurance companies think the bill is in good shape as filed.
NAIFA Position: Do not oppose.
Status: Referred to Senate Commerce and Energy Committee.

TIER 2 BILL

SB 31 An Act to revise certain provisions regarding criminal background checks for assistant behavior analysts and paraprofessionals.
Sponsor: The Committee on Health and Human Services at the request of the Department of Social Services
Summary: The bill removes the requirement that assistant behavior analysts and paraprofessionals submit to a criminal background check by the FBI. The DCI background check requirement remains.
NAIFA Position: Monitor
Status: Referred to Senate Health and Human Services Committee.

TIER 3 BILLS

HB 1034 An Act to revise certain provisions regarding unemployment insurance contribution rates.
Sponsor: The Committee on Commerce and Energy at the request of the Department of Labor and Regulation
Summary: This bill is a clean-up of the statutes covering unemployment insurance contribution rates. It extends current rates through December 31, 2019.
NAIFA Position: Monitor
Status: Referred to House Commerce and Energy Committee.

SB 36 An Act to revise the membership of the State Workers’ Compensation Advisory Council.
Sponsor: The Committee on State Affairs at the request of the Department of Labor and Regulation
Summary: The bill adds a ninth member to the State Workers’ Compensation Advisory Council. The ninth member, who is appointed by the Governor, shall serve as chair.
NAIFA Position: Monitor
Status: Referred to Senate Commerce and Energy Committee.

Respectfully submitted,

Darla Pollman Rogers, Lobbyist