



Last Two Weeks of the OK Legislative Session Updates on a Flurry of Activities

1. We have been working on the price regulation issues. We were not aware that the state Dept. of Ag was doing price inspections of pharmacies until our meeting this morning. Sen. Harry Coates and Rep. Dan Sullivan are considering a bill that would move pricing regulation from the State Dept of Ag to the Attorney General's Office of Consumer Affairs. This move would change the program from being regulation driven to being consumer complaint driven. If the move is made, there will simply be many fewer inspections and therefore many fewer fines.



2. HB 3251 --- By way of update, the Conference Committee Report for HB 3251 has been finalized and is moving forward. This bill proposes a “master registry” for methadone users to be kept by OBND. In behalf of OPhA, we have not had problems with this bill as proposed. Our concern has been that Sen. Wilson, D – Tahlequah, and Rep. Mike Brown, D – Tahlequah, and others have, during the session, attempted to add extremely confusing prescription pricing amendments to which we were opposed. Pleased to report that we were able to work with the bill's authors to keep these amendments which we opposed from being included in the final version of the bill.
3. HB 3311 - is the legislative effort that will require the legislature to approve administrative rules rather than current practice which is - - if not disapproved the rule is considered inactive. The discussions on this issue have been very positive that this is a move to limit the power of the bureaucracy.
4. SJR 61 - Intangibles Tax issue. This is a huge issue and we are deeply ensconced in the middle of it – working for all of our business clients. At the current time we are actually working a “roll call” lobbying all House and Senate members on the issue. We are working on SJR 61 – a joint legislative resolution that will create an “in lieu of tax” that would essentially provide a two-year moratorium on county assessors attempting to collect intangible personal property taxes at the local level. There is also a large task force being created to address the issue in hopes of deciding a long-term solution. If this issue is not resolved this session - - before next Friday May, 28th - - it could cost large and

small business in Oklahoma more than \$1 billion in additional taxes. Very pleased to report that the proposed two-year "fix" for the Intangibles

Good News To Report for May 21st. The Tax issue as contained in SJR 61 the proposed two-year "fix" for the Intangibles Tax - passed the House floor today by a vote of 91-9. We are very optimistic that the 44-1 vote in the Senate and 91-9 vote in the House will give the Governor plenty of confidence to sign the bill.

A BIG THANKS TO CLAYTON TAYLOR & the TAYLOR GROUP FOR STAYING ON TOP OF ISSUES THAT COULD HARM OUR PROFESSION & BUSINE\$\$\$.

Look for a Final Session Summary in early June!!!

Please contact Phil Woodward if you need further Information concerning a particular bill. pwoodward@opha.com or call office at (405) 557-5772