Harmful Bill Would Place Homeowners and Insurers at Risk

VICA opposes Assembly Bill 206 (Gonzalez-Fletcher), which would change current law to extend workers’ compensation coverage to almost all individuals who perform labor incidental to homeownership, raising home insurance premiums and creating a significant risk of substantial workers’ compensation abuse. AB 206 would remove the requirement that an individual work at least 52 hours in order for worker's compensation insurance to be required. The often informal nature of hiring for work incidental to homeownership will also make it hard for many homeowners to dispute a fraudulent claim. VICA is advocating against this bill which is bad for homeowners and insurers, and creates a significant opportunity for workers’ compensation abuse.

Send a letter opposing AB 206 by clicking here.

Last Chance to Register Before Early Bird Special is Gone!

May 22 - May 24

Join more than 200 civic and business leaders for the region's premier advocacy trip to the nation's Capitol. Attendees will meet with members of Congress and senior Administration officials on priorities important to Southern California.

Early Bird Registration Fee: $750 (Before April 21)

Registration Fee After April 21: $850
Oppose Ineffective Ban on Plastic Bottle Caps

VICA opposes Assembly Bill 319 (Stone), which would prohibit the sale of a bottled beverage with a cap unless either the cap is tethered to the container or the cap includes an opening for consumption. Technology to tether or attach a cap to a bottle does not currently exist for carbonated beverages, so the bill's total costs cannot be precisely estimated. In addition, bottled non-carbonated beverages with cap designs similar to the bill's requirements, such as sport-top bottles, have a plastic protective wrapping covering the cap, so it will not reduce the amount of plastic litter. Similar products such as straws, metal caps, single-use cups, and others will not be targeted. In fact, the Ocean Conservancy found that food wrappers, beverage bottles and cigarettes were the most common trash items found on our beaches, followed by bottle caps.

Send a letter opposing AB 319 by clicking here.

PSA: Airbag Recall for 2001-2003 Hondas and Acuras

VICA urges its members to share this critical PSA from Councilmember Mitch Englander on the airbag recall for certain 2001-2003 Honda and Acura cars. These airbag ruptures have caused at least 11 deaths and hundreds of injuries across the US. Owners in the San Fernando Valley are at especially high risk due to the high summer temperatures. For more information, visit www.airbagrecall.com

Watch Councilmember Englander's PSA by clicking here.
Hot Issues

Transportation
Metro will begin charging for parking at the San Fernando Valley's two Metro Red Line Stations later this month. Starting April 24, parking will cost $3 per day, including nights and weekends.

Economy
A series of government indexes show the economies of Southern California's metropolitan areas grew late last year at their slowest pace since 2010.

Manufacturing
Aerojet Rocketdyne will relocate 1,100 jobs over the next 18 months from Sacramento to Huntsville, Alabama and Canoga Park, California as well as other locations. The job changes are part of the next phase of a multiyear plan initiated in 2015.

Entertainment
According to figures released on Wednesday by FilmL.A., on-location film, television and commercial production fell by 2.1 percent in the first quarter of 2017 compared to last year.

Education
According to data released on Tuesday by the California Department of Education, the Los Angeles Unified School District saw the graduation rate of its high school students climb 5 percentage points last year, to 77%.

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Click here to RSVP for VICA's 2017 Hall of Fame Dinner.

Member Messages:
Get Your Message in VICA Weekly!

VICA members can promote their business, events and news in VICA Weekly. Member messages are available for $50 per week or $175 for four weeks. Messages are text-based and may not contain more than 70 words. A logo may be added for an additional $5 per week. For more information or to schedule your member message, contact Helene@vica.com or call (818) 817-0545.

ABOUT VICA
Presenting the business perspective on behalf of employers in the San Fernando Valley cities of Los Angeles, Burbank, Glendale, Calabasas, Hidden Hills, San Fernando and Santa Clarita.

Read more about VICA at vica.com.